Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

http://www.archive.org/details/centennialcelebr00newt

ATTENTION:
BAR CODE IS LOCATED ON
NEXT PAGE!

GEN
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 00082 9348
GENEALOGY
974.402
N48C

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

, 1776.

of Newton duly warned
17 ting house on Monday
Cent et on Sundry Articles
thereto being had may
dward was Chosen Moderator

ticle in the Warrant
Annu ase the Hon^ble Continental
American Colonies declare
June f Great Britain, whether
uly Engage with their lives
18- measure and the vote

Fillm^r Town Clerk

1776.

Centennial

Anniversary

June 17th,

1876.

FAC SIMILIE OF THE VOTE JUNE 17, 1776.

FROM THE TOWN RECORDS.

1776
June 17th at a town meeting of the Inhabitants of Newton duly warned and regularly Assembled at our meeting house on Monday the 17th Day of June A D 1776 to act on Sundry Artiles mentioned in the Warrant reference thereto being had may more fully Appear, Capt. John Woodward was Chosen Moderator of said meeting

After some debate on the Second Artile in the Warrant the Question was put; that in case the Hon Continental Congress Should for the Safety of the American Colonies, declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, whether the Inhabitants of this Town will Solemnly Engage with their lives and fortunes to Support them in the Measure and the vote passed Unanimously in the Affirmative

Attest Fuller Town Clerk

Newton Centennial Memorial.

1776. *1876.*

THE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

OF THE

CITY OF NEWTON,

ON THE

Seventeenth of June and the Fourth of July,

BY AND UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
CITY OF NEWTON.

NEWTON:
PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL.
1876.

Franklin Press:
Rand, Avery, and Company,
117 Franklin Street,
Boston.

1137139

CONTENTS.

	Page
OFFICIAL ORDERS	9
REPORT OF JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE	15
EXERCISES ON THE SEVENTEENTH OF JUNE:—	
Hymn	29
Invocation	29
Singing, — "Hail Columbia"	30
Prayer	31
Original Hymn	34
Address by Mayor Alden Speare	35
Address by Gov. Alexander H. Rice.	38
Singing, — "Battle Hymn of the Republic"	42
Reading of Original Hymn written by S. F. Smith	43
Historical ddress by Ex-Mayor James F. C. Hyde	44
Singing, — Whittier's "Centennial Hymn"	74
Original Poem by Rev. I. N. Tarbox	74
Presentation of Crayon Portrait of Col. Joseph Ward, by Mr. William C. Bates	81
Singing, — "America"	85
Benediction by Rev. Henry Mackay	85
CORRESPONDENCE	89

Mendeza - 3.50

PAGE

EXERCISES ON THE FOURTH OF JULY: —

Musical Selections 104

Reading of President's Proclamation 104

Hymn 106

Reading of Declaration of Independence 106

Song, — "The Battle-Cry of Freedom" 106

Mayor's Address 106

Oration by Hon. John C. Park 109

Original Poem by J. L. Ordway 122

Representation of Historical Scenes by School-Children and Others 132

Doxology 138

Benediction 138

APPENDIX: —

Notes 141

Officers of the City Government 155

History of Early Settlement of Newton 161

OFFICIAL ORDERS.

OFFICIAL ORDERS.

CITY OF NEWTON.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen, Feb. 28, 1876.

Ordered, That, in view of the peculiar interest attending this centennial year of our national history, a Joint Special Committee of Five (two Aldermen and three Councilmen) be appointed to make such preliminary arrangements as in their judgment may seem fit, for the appropriate celebration by the City authorities of the coming anniversary of July 4, 1876, and make report thereon.

In accordance with the above vote, passed in concurrence, the following Joint Special Committee was appointed : —

Board of Aldermen. — G. D. Gilman, James F. Edmands.

Board of Common Council. — J. Sturgis Potter, Rufus Moulton, D. S. Simpson.

A true copy of order and action thereon.

Attest,

Ed. O. Childs, *City Clerk*.

CITY OF NEWTON.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen,
West Newton, March 15, 1876.

The Joint Special Committee on the matter of the celebration of this centennial year in the national history would offer the following report: —

They recommend as follows: That the City Government take measures, through a Joint Special Committee, for the proper observance of the Seventeenth of June *prox.*, that being the day when the Freemen of the town of Newton in 1776 voted, in town meeting assembled, "that they will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes, to support the measures of independence."

That such celebration shall be held in some large hall, and consist of addresses, music, &c., appropriate to the occasion.

They would also recommend, that, on the Fourth of July *prox.*, the bells in the different wards be rung, morning, noon, and night, the National flag be displayed on all public flagstaffs, under the direction of the usual committee.

Also, that, so far as may be practicable, the restriction on firing cannon, fire-crackers, fireworks, &c., be removed for that day.

CITY OF NEWTON.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen,
March 15, 1876.

Ordered, That the Joint Special Committee, to whom was referred the matter of the celebration of this centennial year, be and the same are made a committee to carry out the recommendations made in their report to the City Council, this 15th of March, 1876.

A true copy of order adopted in concurrence April 3, 1876.

Attest,

Edwin O. Childs, *City Clerk*.

CITY OF NEWTON.

In Board of Mayor and Aldermen,
June 19, 1876.

Ordered, That the Joint Special Committee having in charge the Centennial celebrations of the Seventeenth of June and Fourth of July be and are instructed to procure copies of the public addresses that have been or may be made, with the correspondence thereto appertaining, and prepare the same for publication, that copies may be transmitted to Washington as requested by his Excellency the President of the United States, and one copy to be sent to the office of the clerk of the county.

That five hundred copies of the same, to be known as the "Newton Centennial Memorial" volume, be printed, and the standing Committee on Printing be charged with carrying out this portion of this order.

A true copy of order, adopted by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, June 19, 1876, and by the Common Council, in concurrence, June 26, 1876.

Attest,

Edwin O. Childs, *City Clerk.*

REPORT OF JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

City Hall, West Newton, Sept. 4, 1876.

To the City Council of the City of Newton :

The Joint Special Committee to whom were intrusted the arrangements for the proper observance of the centennial celebration of the Seventeenth of June, the Fourth of July, and the preparation of the Centennial Memorial Volume, would respectfully submit the following report : —

Your Committee have endeavored to carry out what they understood to be the wishes of our citizens, as expressed by the unanimous votes of both branches of the City Council, that these anniversaries should be duly observed and worthily honored.

It is not our province to make any lengthy reference in this place to the exciting events and stirring deeds of one hundred years ago : that belongs more properly to the historian. We may be permitted, however, to remark, that history shows that the freemen of Newton of 1776 were fully alive to the great occasion that appealed to their patriotism, and were not unconscious of the dangers that threatened the life of the Colonies. Knowing all, they dared bravely for the right.

"They little thought how pure a light
With years should gather round that day,
How love should keep their memories bright,
How wide a realm their sons should sway."

Bryant.

Living as they did within sight and hearing of the neighboring city of Boston, in constant communication with the leaders in the cause of Liberty, — Newton's sons among them, — it is not strange that their sympathies were moved to send a timely force of a company of men, officered by their brave Jackson and Richardson, to share in the fight at Concord and Lexington on the 19th of April, 1775, when that shot was fired which was "heard round the world."

Knowing, as the people did, of the battle of Bunker Hill, — by the echoes of the cannon which could be heard in their homes, and by the smoke of the great conflagration attending it, which could be seen from their hill-tops, — it is not a matter of wonder that the brave hearts of Newton were fired with the determination to solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support the measures in behalf of the cause of freedom.

It was but across the Charles River, in the adjoining town of Watertown, that the members of the Colonial Assembly held their sessions, having been compelled to leave Boston; and it may safely be assumed that the men of Newton had often contributed by their presence, as they did by their purses, to strengthen the hands and stimulate the hearts of their chosen leaders, in their endeavors to guide the people of the different colonies towards the goal of a united and independent nation.

We know the friendship of Washington for our own Joseph Ward; and it may be that the silent influence of the commander-in-chief was felt by those of our townsmen who saw and met him in his visits to Watertown, whither he came to confer with the patriots there assembled.

The century has passed. Those worthy men, who did well their part in the great struggle, who laid all they possessed upon the altar for the good of country, now rest in the hallowed ground of the old cemetery. Precious are their memories, and grateful children and children's children shall ever perpetuate them.

"They went where duty seemed to call;
They scarcely asked the reason why:
They only knew they could but die,
And death was not the worst of all.

Of man for man the sacrifice,
Unstained by blood save theirs, they gave:
The flowers that blossomed from their grave
Have sown themselves beneath all skies."

WHITTIER.

Not far off, in the new cemetery, is a monument, upon the front of which is inscribed the words "In memoriam perpetuam;" and upon the entablature is carved the motto, "Pro patria mortui sunt," above the names of the brave men of Newton who offered up their lives in the cause of freedom and the union. These silently tell the story, that worthy sons of noble sires have followed the self-sacrificing spirit of the fathers, and have shown how sweet it was "for one's country to die;" and that, when the national life was again assailed, brave men were not found wanting for a second deliverance. When the call came to them, in the words of one of the poets of our own city, —

"The sons of Newton like their sires arise,
And march, as did of old the minute-men,
To find the nearest spot where danger lies.

And each true heart, and every noble soul,
Like the brave heroes of an earlier day,
Are ever first and foremost in the fray,
When duty calls the roll,
And honor leads the way."

ORDWAY.

THE SEVENTEENTH OF JUNE.

His Excellency ALEXANDER H. RICE, the Governor of the Commonwealth, who is a native of Newton, was invited to deliver the opening address of the Centennial Celebration of the Seventeenth of June.

Ex-Mayor Hon. JAMES F. C. HYDE, a descendant of a patriotic actor in the scenes to be commemorated, was requested to tell the story of that day in connection with a brief glance at the history of the town, — its trials, struggles, and triumphs, for the past two hundred years.

Rev. I. N. TARBOX, D.D., a respected citizen of our town and city, was selected as the poet of the occasion.

Each most acceptably fulfilled the part assigned to him in the celebration, which was especially observed in commemoration of the action of the town government of one hundred years ago.

Saturday the Seventeenth of June, 1876, will be pleasantly remembered as a day of especial interest in the history of Newton.

Suitable preparations were made for an appropriate observance by the people of the city, of the anniversary of the day when the freemen of Newton, in town meeting assembled, declared in favor of the independence of the Colonies from the rule of Great Britain by the following resolution: —

"JUNE 17, 1776. At a town meeting the inhabitants of Newton, duly warned and regularly assembled at our meeting-house, on Monday, the seventeenth day of June, A.D. 1776, to act on sundry articles mentioned in the warrant, reference thereto being had may more fully appear. Capt. John Woodward was chosen Moderator of said meeting.

"After some debate on the second article in the warrant, the question was put, that, in case the Honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American Colonies, declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, whether the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure; and the vote passed unanimously in the affirmative.

"ABRAHAM FULLER, *Town Clerk.*"

The day was one of the finest of a beautiful season, and was greatly

enjoyed by the large numbers of our citizens and others who improved it as a day of recreation.

Throughout the city, various historical points were marked with appropriate inscriptions. The old houses, objects of special interest, were decked with bunting; several of the churches were very tastefully decorated, and bore inscriptions giving the dates of their organization, &c.; and many flags were displayed in honor of the celebration. Salutes were fired at intervals, by various parties in different wards, and the city was almost wholly given over to holiday observances.

At six o'clock, P.M., the public ceremonies began with an open-air concert in front of Nonantum Hall, by the Newton City Band, twenty-five pieces, C. A. Eaton, leader. Meanwhile the Claflin Guards, Capt. F. N. Brown, the Charles Ward Post, "G. A. R.," D. A. Conant, commander and the members of the City Government, assembled in Nonantum Hall. At ten minutes past seven, P.M., His Excellency Gov. Alexander H. Rice, accompanied by the members of his staff in uniform, — who had been met at the depot by the Committee of Arrangements with carriages, — entered the hall, and were received by the Guards with the military honors due to the rank of the distinguished visitors.

Being escorted to the reception-rooms, his Excellency was received in behalf of the city, by his Honor Mayor Alden Speare, and the members of the City Council, and, after a brief interchange of congratulations, a procession was formed, and proceeded to Eliot Hall, Ward Seven, in the following order: —

Platoon of Police.
Newton City Band.
City Marshal R. L. Hinds.
His Excellency Gov. Alexander H. Rice, and his Honor Mayor Alden Speare.
Members of the Governor's Staff.
Members of the Committee of Arrangements.
Members of the Board of Aldermen.
Members of the Common Council.
Claflin Guards, Capt. F. N. Brown.
Charles Ward Post, G. A. R., D. A. Conant, Commander.
Police.

The doors of the hall, the largest audience-room in the city, with accommodations on the floor for a thousand persons, were opened to the public at seven o'clock, P.M.

The gallery had been reserved for the ladies of the members of the City Government, the School Committee and their ladies, and the daughters of the descendants of the old residents. Among these honored guests, were three grandchildren of Col. Joseph Ward.

Seated upon the right of the platform were the invited guests, — the seats of honor being reserved for the descendants of the Revolutionary heroes, whose patriotic actions this celebration was designed especially to commemorate.

A guard of honor covering these representatives of the ancient worthies was maintained by members of the Claflin Guards during the exercises of the evening.

On the left of the platform were the seats of the members of the City Government, heads of departments, Chairman of the Public Library, of the School Committee, of the Board of Assessors, of the Water Commissioners, and others connected officially with the city.

By special invitation, the honorable and venerable gentlemen Seth Davis, Esq., and Marshall S. Rice, Esq., who for many years have been identified with the interests of the old town and new city, were also present.

Seats were also assigned to the selectmen of Lexington and Concord, in recognition of the cordiality and good feeling that have ever existed between these old towns and ours, in time of war and in peace.

In the centre of the platform were his Excellency the Governor, and his Honor the Mayor, the reverend clergy, the speakers of the evening, and members of the Governor's staff; and back of them the choir, — composed of thirteen persons, descendants from the men of Newton of 1776, and thirty-eight pupils of the Newton High School, representing the thirty-eight States of the Republic.

The hall, under the hands of the decorator, presented a beautiful appearance. The walls were tastefully hung with the national colors in graceful festoons. The coats-of-arms of the State and of the city were

draped with American flags ; while at regular intervals along the front of the gallery were the names of the first settlers, — RICHARDSON, STONE, KENRICK, CHENEY, FULLER, WARD, ROGER SHERMAN, WOODWARD, HAMMOND, HYDE, WISWALL, JACKSON. Conspicuously displayed upon a large banner on the south side, was the now-memorable vote of the town, passed June 17, 1776 : —

" *Voted*, unanimously, that in case the Honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American Colonies, declare their independence of the Kingdom of Great Britain, the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure.

" ABRAHAM FULLER, *Town Clerk.*"

While upon a similar banner on the north side was an extract from a letter from Gen. Washington to Col. Joseph Ward.

" HEADQUARTERS, March 20, 1780.

" TO COL. JOSEPH WARD : — The favorable sentiments of a good man, and one who has executed diligently and faithfully performed the duties of his station, cannot fail of being agreeable. GEORGE WASHINGTON."

To whom also Gen. Washington wrote, —

. . . " You have my thanks for your constant attention to the business of your department, the manner of its execution, and your ready and faithful compliance with all my orders ; and I cannot help adding, on this occasion, for the zeal you have discovered at all times, and under all circumstances, to promote the good of the service in general, and the great objects of our cause.

" I am, dear sir, with great regard, your obedient and humble servant,

" GEORGE WASHINGTON."

As indicating the close national connection with the events of the 17th of June, 1775, and of the 17th of June, 1776, there was placed in the rear of the platform a large picture of Bunker Hill Monument. Above it was the motto, —

"New Town (Cambridge), 1631. Nonantum — Cambridge Village, 1654."
"New Town — set off from Cambridge — 1679."[1]
"First Public School about 1700."
"Newton, 1766."

In front of the reading-desk, and festooned with American colors arranged around it, was a beautiful crayon life-size portrait of Col. Joseph Ward of Newton.

There was also a fine portrait of Mr. Peter Hammond, who was born in Newton, April 9, 1776, and who is still alive and in the enjoyment of good health.

Upon one side of the desk was displayed the old sword of Col. Michael Jackson, one of Newton's leading men in the days of the Revolution. It is said, that, while participating in the public debate held at Watertown on the situation of affairs at Concord and Lexington, rising from his seat, he exclaimed, "You may stay here and talk, but I go to fight," and immediately started to take his place in the Newton Company. By the side of this sword, as fitting accompaniments, were the cartridge-box and white belt which Mr. Samuel Richardson brought as trophies from the battle-field of Lexington, having taken them himself from a British soldier who had fallen there.

Mr. Richardson was one of the selectmen of Newton in 1776, who gave emphasis to the words of the Resolution by his deeds, having been the lieutenant of the Newton Company, which participated in the engagement at Lexington.

Fitly surmounting these venerated and valuable mementos of the times of the fathers, was a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

On the opposite side of the desk was placed the beautiful statuette of "The Minute-Man," one of those

"Whose faith and truth
On war's red touchstone rang true metal;
Who ventured life and love and youth
For the great prize of death in battle."

[1] This date is in doubt, as will be seen by the address of Mr. Hyde, pp. 45–49.

Other decorations about the hall served to add to its attractiveness, and recall patriotic associations.

At half-past seven, P.M., the procession reached the hall, which was filled to overflowing; and to the music from the band, of "Hail to the Chief," his Excellency the Governor, his Honor the Mayor, with the Governor's staff and members of the City Government, were escorted to the platform, the whole audience rising and receiving the distinguished guests in a most hearty manner. The scene at this moment was one of great brilliancy and enthusiasm, and long to be remembered.

It gave evident tokens of the deep interest our citizens felt in the celebration of this now historic day, and was the assurance that they will not willingly let die the memories of the men of Newton of 1776.

"With us their names shall live
Through long succeeding years;
Embalmed with all our hearts can give, —
Our praises and our tears."

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

In accordance with the arrangements made by the City Council, through its joint committee, the centennial anniversary of American independence was duly celebrated in Newton, on Tuesday, and in a manner reflecting credit on all our citizens. Probably not for half a century has Newton had a celebration of the day under the auspices of the town or city authorities. Every exertion was made that the occasion should be honored in a becoming manner, manifesting the hearty sympathy of our people to-day with the patriots of one hundred years ago.

On the previous Sunday, July 2, the occurrence of the Centennial sabbath was noticed in many of the churches, by the selection of appropriate hymns, and by reference to the fact in the sermons, that the one hundredth anniversary of the nation was at hand.

The approach of Centennial Independence Day was made clearly manifest the night previous by the faithful performance, under vigorous workers, of every noisy appliance within our borders. At midnight the "music of the bells" was added to the jubilation. Bonfires were also built on the hilltops, that on Mount Ida being especially brilliant. Baxter's Artillery also woke the slumbering echoes from West Newton Hill, ushering in the day.

The "antique" parades (which of late years have come to be considered a necessary adjunct to a Fourth of July celebration) were gotten up independent of the general committee, and at the designated hour began their march. After parading through the principal streets of the several wards of the city, they proceeded to Lincoln Park, West Newton, where they breakfasted.

The general programme for the day announced that the celebration would commence by a parade of the Fire Department, and its review by the members of the City Government, which took place at 9.45, A.M., and was in all respects creditable to the firemen, and satisfactory to the authorities. It was formed in the following order: —

Newton Mounted Police.

Charlestown City Band.

Chief Engineer Orrin Whipple, and Assistant Engineers.

Steamer 1, C. A. Hill, Foreman.

Nonantum Hose and Supply Wagon.

Boardman Drum Corps.

Steamer 2, B. D. Griggs, Foreman.

Steamer 3, William Bemis, Foreman.

Hook and Ladder 1, Fred. Sibley, Foreman.

Hose 4, Byron Jones, Foreman.

Hose 5, George Cook, Foreman.

Hand Engine 1, J. P. Houghton, Foreman.

Hand Engine 4, J. Kerivan, Foreman.

The procession started from Lincoln Park, West Newton, and was reviewed by Mayor Speare and the City Council, in front of the City Hall. The people of Newton are to be congratulated on having a Department composed of such a fine-looking and substantial body of men, and who are, from appearances, so well provided with the most powerful machines to cope with the devouring element.

Hon. John C. Parks, a resident of our city, whose long experience, enlarged observation, and strong national sympathies, indicated him for the position of "the Orator of the day," kindly accepted the invitation.

Mr. J. L. Ordway promised the poem for the occasion.

The time-honored custom of the reading of the Declaration of Independence was committed to Mr. E. W. Cate, one of the young men of our city, who had passed through its schools, graduating with honor from its highest.

It was deemed advisable that the children should not be overlooked, and that they should be made participants with their parents in the celebration, thus perpetuating the memories which the occasion commemorated. Mr. George S. Trowbridge, who was assisted by Miss Mattie C. Howe, very kindly gave his time and attention to the arrangement of this part of our programme, and with unqualified success.

It was a matter of regret that the address prepared by Rev. B. K. Peirce for the children should have been obliged to be omitted, owing to the lateness of the hour.

The beautiful hall of our City Hall, Ward Three, was appropriately adorned in honor of "the day we celebrate," displaying conspicuously a finely painted seal of the City, and also the seals of the Commonwealth and of the United States, with other decorations national and patriotic; while a profusion of star-spangled banners told of

"The land of the free, and the home of the brave."

The stage was occupied by the members of the City Government, the speakers on the occasion, and the invited guests; while every available space in the large hall was filled, and numbers could not obtain room.

The exercises were exceedingly interesting and profitable, and, although lengthy, were waited upon by the large, sympathetic audience with patience and attention.

In conclusion, your committee would desire to express their appreciation of the kindly co-operation of the members of the City Government, and of our citizens in general ; and, insomuch as the celebrations were a success, it was owing to the support and countenance of our people.

Very respectfully submitted.

G. D. GILMAN,
JAMES F. EDMANDS,
J. STURGIS POTTER,
RUFUS MOULTON,
D. S. SIMPSON,

Joint Special Committee.

EXERCISES ON SEVENTEENTH OF JUNE.

THE EXERCISES.

The exercises of the occasion were opened by the Newton City Band playing the several American national airs, after which the audience arose, and joined with the choir in singing, to the tune of "Old Hundred," the accompanying verses: —

"O God! beneath thy guiding hand,
Our exiled fathers crossed the sea;
And, when they trod the wintry strand,
With prayer and psalm they worshipped thee.

And here thy name, O God of love!
Their children's children will adore,
Till these eternal hills remove,
And spring adorns the earth no more."

The Rev. W. E. Huntington, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Newton, then offered the following invocation: —

We thank thee, our heavenly Father, for the memories which bring us here to-night, and for the men who in thy providence became the founders of our civil liberties. We revere their names. Their brave words inspired us.

Their lives still speak. As we look into the past, with the blessings of a century upon us, may we learn its lessons! May our citizenship be nobler from the example of our forefathers! Bless those who have planned these centennial exercises, and all who shall participate therein; and crown us all with thy grace and heavenly benediction, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

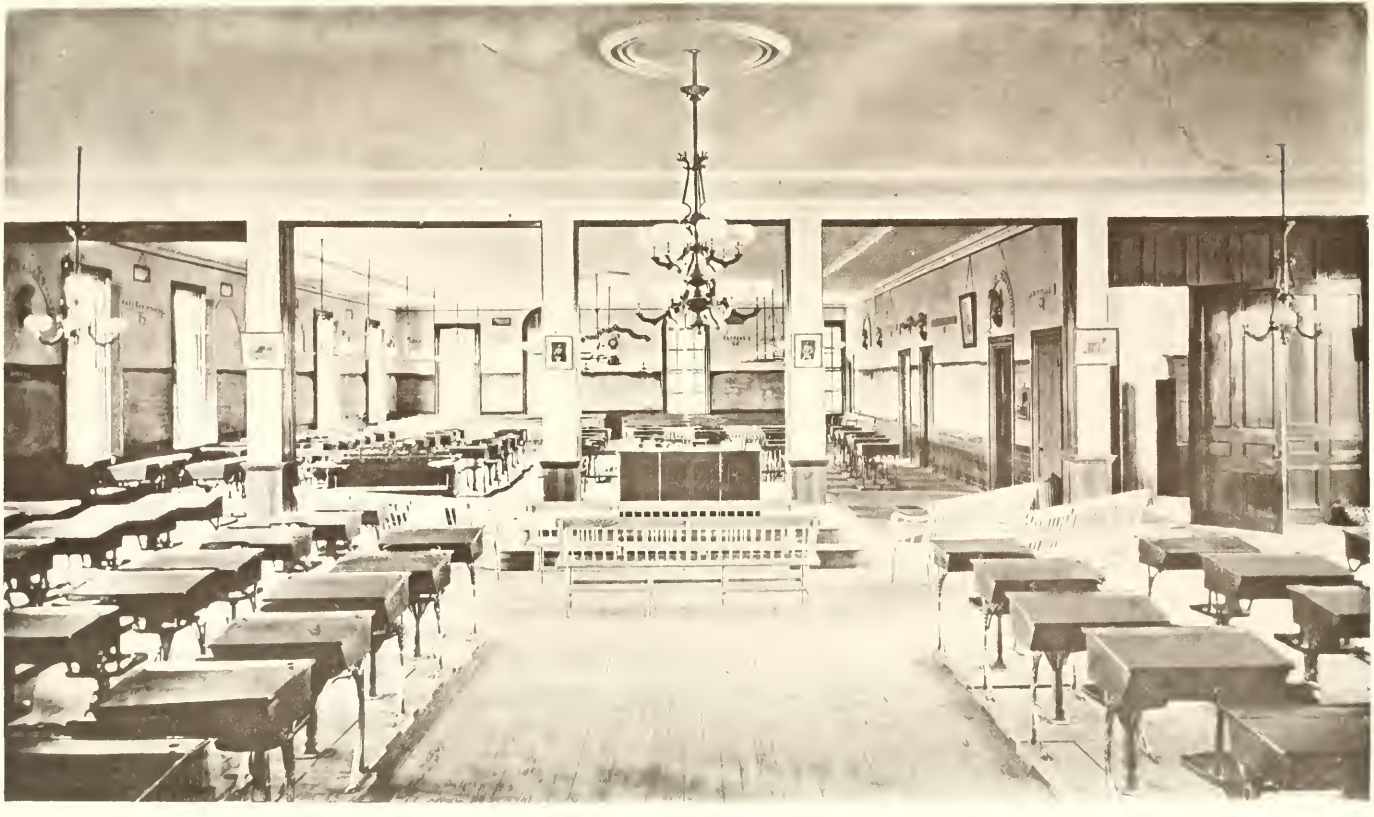
At the close of the invocation, "Hail Columbia" was rendered by the band and choir, the audience joining in the chorus.

Hail, Columbia! happy land!
Hail, ye heroes, heaven-born band,
Who fought and bled in freedom's cause,
And, when the storm of war was done,
Enjoyed the peace your valor won!
Let independence be your boast, —
Ever mindful what it cost;
Ever grateful for the prize,
Let your altars reach the skies.

CHORUS.

Firm, united, let us be,
Rallying round our liberty;
As a band of brothers joined,
Peace and safety we shall find.

Immortal patriots, rise once more!
Defend your rights, defend your shore!
Let no rude foe with impious hand
Invade the land where sacred lies
Of toil and blood the well-earned prize;



While offering peace sincere and just,
In Heaven we place a manly trust,
That truth and justice may prevail,
And every scheme of bondage fail."

Prayer was then offered by Rev. Dr. FURBER, of the First Church, where the meeting in favor of independence was held:—

O thou eternal and unchangeable God, with reverence would we look upward unto thee, who, through all the changes that occur in the affairs of men and of nations, art forever the same. One generation goeth, and another cometh; but thou changest not.

We look back over the generations that have preceded us, and see from what feeble beginnings we have become a great and mighty nation; and we desire to acknowledge, in all our growth and prosperity, thy ruling and helping hand. Thou didst bring a vine out of England. Thou didst cast out the heathen, and plant it. Thou preparedest room before it, and didst cause it to take deep root; and it has filled the land. Thou didst plant here a Christian people, with an undying love of freedom, law, and truth in their hearts, and in all their ways thou didst guide them as with a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night.

Their sense of personal dignity and of God-given rights was from thee, their sleepless vigilance, and their heroic constancy in resisting the aggressions of arbitrary power. Their lofty determination to secure for themselves and for us those inestimable blessings of unfettered liberty, which

so few of the nations of the earth have ever enjoyed, thou didst inspire in their hearts. And when the stand was taken, and the declaration made, which announced to the world the birth of a nation, thou didst gird them with strength for the conflict which ensued. Thou didst teach their hands to war, and their fingers to fight; thou didst raise up for them a leader and commander whom they followed with unbounded confidence and unfaltering affection; and by him thou didst lead them triumphantly through the stormy sea of war, reddened with their blood, and strewn with the wreck of untold treasure; and, when the long-sought liberty was achieved, it was in the hands of a people whom thou hadst prepared for it by the long severity of discipline through which they had passed.

We give thanks for the conspicuous part which was borne in the struggle by this ancient Commonwealth; for the example and influence of that apostle of liberty whose fiery words on the floor of Congress stirred the hearts of men to their depths; and for the readiness with which the people of the Commonwealth responded, far and near, to the bugle-call of his voice and the voices of his compatriots.

We rejoice, that, in that momentous crisis, the response of our own beloved town was heard; that, in the sanctuary where our fathers worshipped, they solemnly and with one voice pledged their fortunes and their lives to the sacred cause of freedom, and from that time forth redeemed their pledge with their toils, their sacrifices, and their blood.

As we, their posterity, come into the inheritance which

they bequeathed, we would now take upon ourselves, with the opening of another century, the solemn pledge, that, so far as in us lies, we will maintain and transmit inviolate what we have received; that we will water and nourish the tree which they planted, and labor to remove from it whatever might deform its beauty or hinder its fruit. May we love law as well as liberty, and, while we hate tyranny, uphold government! May our public men be delivered from all taint of venality and every sordid aim! When they think of him, who, without remuneration, led the armies of the Revolution, and of the many who followed him ready to lose every thing for their cause, may all greed of gain be put away, and every mercenary motive lose its power!

With the deepest shame do we confess to thee, and with a keen and bitter sense of national disgrace, the corruption of our times. And we earnestly pray, O thou who lovest righteousness and hatest iniquity, for the restoration of *integrity* among the rulers and among the people of this land! Drop down, ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down *righteousness;* and may the earth open to receive it, and bring forth again, like a garden, the the fruits of righteousness! Thus may our freedom be established and perpetuated, until those who shall come after us, unto the latest generation, shall receive it as a precious legacy from the fathers, passing safely through our hands; and may they, like the fathers, be able to exclaim, "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge"!

God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us; that thy way may be known upon the earth, thy saving health among all nations.

And unto the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who only hath immortality, be honor and power everlasting. Amen.

Alderman G. D. Gilman, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, then read several letters, which will be found in the Correspondence; after the reading of which, the choir sang the hymn, "To thee, O Country!" written by Anna Eichberg, the music by Julius Eichberg.

"To thee, O country! great and free,
With trusting hearts we cling:
Our voices, tuned by joyous love,
Thy power and praises sing.
Upon thy mighty, faithful heart
We lay our burden down:
Thou art the only friend who feels
Their weight without a frown.

To thee we daily work and strive;
To thee we give our love;
For thee with fervor deep we pray
To Him who dwells above, —
O God! preserve our fatherland,
Let Peace its ruler be;
And let her happy kingdom stretch
From north to southmost sea."

His Honor Mayor Speare, in welcoming the assembly, made the following

1137139

ADDRESS.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends and Fellow-Citizens, — We bid you one and all a hearty welcome to Newton's Centennial Anniversary of her Declaration of Independence.

On the 17th of May, 1776, on motion of Patrick Henry, the House of Burgesses of Virginia voted to instruct their delegates in Congress to propose to that body to declare the Colonies independent of Great Britain.

On the 7th of June, in accordance with this vote, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, in Continental Congress, made the motion as directed; which motion was seconded and ably supported by John Adams of Massachusetts. After three days' debate, it was referred to a committee, with the understanding that they should report near the first of July, when the debate should be renewed and the question decided.

On the 17th of June, the citizens of Newton assembled in town meeting. Capt. John Woodward was chosen moderator. The second article of the warrant read as follows: "That in case the Honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American Colonies, declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, whether the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure."

After debate the question was put, and the vote passed UNANIMOUSLY in the AFFIRMATIVE.

Noble and memorable as was this vote, Newton did not stop with *resolves*. On the 5th of July, again in town meeting, — no telegraph then to electrify them with the account of the momentous event of yesterday, the signing of the Declaration of Independence by every member of the Continental Congress save one, — it was "voted to pay £6, 6*s*. 8*d*., to each person who passeth muster, and goeth into Newton's quota, in the expedition to Canada."

"*Voted*, to authorize the treasurer to borrow the money to pay the bounty," AND "*Voted* that the money the treasurer shall borrow to pay the bounty of the soldiers aforesaid SHALL BE ASSESSED on the polls and estates in Newton, and paid into the town treasury by the 1st of January next." Thus they assumed all the burdens of their times, and bequeathed only the blessings and benefits which should follow.

It is said of the Athenians, when the republic was established under the wise laws of Solon, "Once more freemen, the Athenians were once more warriors."

The citizens of Newton, that they might become and remain freemen, have ever been warriors when the exigency of the times has demanded, whether to defend themselves or their neighbors from the attacks of the red men of the forest, from the encroachments of King George, or the slave-power of the South; and we to-day rejoice that the prayer we once heard offered among the mountains of Pennsylvania has been fully answered, —

that the Lord would hasten the day when the last link of the last chain of the last slave on this continent should be broken.

For this, — for the largest liberty consistent with the rights of all; for the material prosperity which has been vouchsafed to us, whereby we have been transformed from thirteen feeble Colonies, comprising but a portion of the eastern border of our present domain, now extending from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific, including thirty-eight States and nine Territories, — the valuation at that time probably less than six hundred million dollars, now more than fifteen billion; then containing less than three million inhabitants, including five hundred thousand slaves, now more than forty million, and not a slave in all the land where floats the stars and stripes; for the religious liberty enabling each to serve God according to the dictates of his own conscience, with no state church to be sustained by taxation; for the opportunities of education and culture whereby every son and daughter of America may, and in most of the States must, obtain a fair education; for the wonderful results of labor and inventive genius, as evidenced in the reaper, the power printing-press, the steamboat, the railroad, the telegraph, and the more than a hundred and seventy-seven thousand patented inventions, — for all these, and the more that we have not mentioned, we to-night would be profoundly grateful.

As land silently fades from the vision of the departing mariner, so fades from memory the history of the noble

deeds and sacrifices of those who even with their lives have secured to us the inestimable blessing of LIBERTY and its consequent happiness.

Of those who took part in that ever-memorable town meeting, June 17, 1776, not one remains; but we have assembled to receive instruction from the lives of those who contributed to make this city, this State, and this nation, what they are to-day ; and our teachers are sons of Newton, who, while they have often been called to positions of honor and responsibility, have equally honored their constituency by the fidelity with which they have fulfilled the trusts confided to them.

Mayor Speare, in closing, introduced as a Newton boy, his Excellency Gov. ALEXANDER H. RICE, who made the following

ADDRESS.

IT gives me unalloyed pleasure, ladies and fellow-citizens, to participate with you in the interesting ceremonies of this historic occasion, and to meet face to face some of my early companions, and a larger number who seem half familiar to me from bearing in their own countenances the well-known lineaments of their ancestors.

I often go back in memory to the picturesque and beautiful scenery of this ancient town, now expanded into a prosperous and thriving city, — to its hills and valleys, forests, fields, and meadows; to its churches and schools, to its mills and factories, and to the manifold interests and

CORNER HOUSE OF 1800

objects which absorbed my attention then, or kindled my ambition for the future. Nor have I ever failed to remember with affectionate veneration and respect you, sir (Seth Davis, Esq.), with others among my early instructors, who with rare aptitude in teaching led your pupils by easy and smooth gradations through preliminary branches of study, into the mysteries of science and the pleasures of literature. Especially do I remember that you were the first to unfold to my thoughtful admiration the character and movements of those grand constellations whose nightly radiance glows from zenith to horizon, and which stretch out their widening orbits into the vast expanse, measuring by ceaseless revolutions the eternal years.

And to-night, after this long interval of time filled with the vicissitudes of a busy life, its duties, its cares, its aspirations, perhaps with the common share of disappointments, perhaps with some measure of its successes, I come back to your centennial celebration flushed with a new devotion, and glad to join with you in laying upon our municipal altar fresh offerings of loyalty and affection.

I think it is a pleasant and healthy custom thus to observe these anniversary occasions. They become great teachers, and stand like sentinels passing along in vivid imagery the story of the past to the generations following.

The love of the soil which gave us birth is one of the strongest passions of human nature; and we burn with delight at the recital of incidents and events which render our birthplace famous and historic. I do not know the name of the noble man who offered the patriotic resolu-

tion passed in the town-meeting of Newton, a hundred years ago, a copy of which now adorns these walls; but he deserves to have a bronze statue erected to his memory, and upon its base should be inscribed the name of every freeholder who voted for it.

I think we are apt without reflection to look back to the origin of the Republic as being also the beginning of our own State of Massachusetts; which is a great mistake, and quite leaves out of account the real significance of the Union and of the influences which brought it into being. Massachusetts had witnessed within her own borders the establishment and growth of civil society, with all its appointments of legislative, judicial, and executive functions, for a hundred and fifty years before the Revolutionary war began. She had also her schools and colleges based upon the conviction of their necessity; her churches, and institutions of charity and reform; her agriculture, her wide-spreading commerce and technical industries; her statesmen, scholars, and divines; and all the elements and accessories of a complete commonwealth. This commonwealth was not only enlightened and influential, but it was thoroughly loyal to the British crown. The honor of Great Britain was the pride of the people of the colony; and her martial strength on land and sea gave them security and confidence. The laws and literature of England were part and parcel of their inheritance. The thought of separation from the mother country never entered into their minds; the dream of independence had never bewitched their thoughts; and nothing but the violation of the common

rights of Englishmen would have driven them into rebellion. But upon the institution of that series of acts of unparalleled oppression, in which it is difficult to tell which was more conspicuous, the arrogance of the crown, or the stupidity of parliament, — acts which the colonists believed to be subversive of the rights of property and of personal liberty, — they staked all they possessed upon the hazard of resistance, and enforced their determination with more than Spartan courage. The Stamp Act, the Boston Port Bill, the Regulating Act, the Bute policy of moulding the colonies, the issuing of writs of assistance, and the like, were the culminating oppressions and follies which aroused the zeal and eloquence of John Hancock, of John Adams and Samuel Adams, of James Otis, of Josiah Quincy, and of their illustrious compeers, who stirred the whole country into sympathy, and brought on the war of the Revolution, and gave life to the Republic of the United States as one of the great powers of the world. In that great contest, Massachusetts was not only foremost in her declarations of resistance, but she contributed a larger number of soldiers to the Continental army than all the other States combined; and, whether in the field or in Congress, her influence was constant and decisive. Our own town of Newton was equal to any other in the spirit of her people and in their prompt response to the call to arms. In the present greatness and power of the Republic, with its forty millions of people, its vast accumulated wealth, its development from ocean to ocean, stimulated by all the discoveries of science and all the appliances of art, it is difficult to estimate rightly the

sacrifices and sufferings of those earlier days when the men whose bravery we to-day commemorate offered all they possessed, and endured unparalleled privations, for the cause of liberty and country. While we enjoy the fruits of their toil and suffering, let us not tamely admire their virtues; but, inspired by a noble emulation, let us be, as they ever were, prepared for sacrifice in the line of our duty. Let us preserve the honor of our native or adopted dwelling-place untarnished by indifference or cowardice, and ready for every exigency of commonwealth or country. In every thing that shall add dignity and usefulness and happiness to mankind, or glory to the God and Father of us all, let us be as our ancestors were, — first, foremost, and indefatigable.

At the close of the Governor's address, the choir sung "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," accompanied by the band, the audience joining in the chorus: —

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath bared the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make them free,
While God is marching on."

The Rev. S. F. Smith of Newton, at that time in England, had composed and forwarded a hymn expressly for the celebration,

which was read by the Rev. B. K. Peirce, D.D., with the accompanying note: —

WINDERMERE, ENGLAND, May 30, 1876.

MY DEAR SIR, — I take pleasure in participating in the approaching patriotic meeting of our fellow-citizens; and, though late (because your letter has been slow in reaching me), I send you the following lines. It may gratify your imaginings to know that they were written partly at Sheffield, where the sweet Christian poet Montgomery lived, and labored, and loved, and died, honored and lamented; and partly on the banks of Lake Windermere, where Wordsworth lived, and wrote himself into immortality.

Very respectfully yours,

S. F. SMITH.

How pure in zeal, how firm in faith,
Sternly the early patriots stood!
Ready to buy — come life or death —
Their freedom at the price of blood.

They scorned in craven fear to bend;
No tyrant power could make them quail:
"Our rights as freemen we defend;
Our cause is God's — it cannot fail."

Slender in means, in numbers few,
But high in aim, and grand in thought;
Nobly they spoke, — brave men and true, —
And nobler deeds of valor wrought.

A century's march, through peace and blood,
Has left their influence still impressed
On all the hills their footsteps trod,
On fields their presence never blessed.

Our fathers' God, we own thy power;
Thy mighty fiat made us free;
Our help in that decisive hour,
Still may we put our trust in thee!

The President then introduced the orator of the day, the Hon. ex-Mayor JAMES F. C. HYDE, who gave the following

HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

In the year 1631 the settlement of the New Town (Cambridge) was begun; and the earliest town records bear date November, 1632. This New Town, of which our present city of Newton forms a small part, embraced at one time what is now Cambridge, Brookline, Brighton, Arlington, Lexington, Billerica, what was once a part of Watertown, Bedford, part of Tewksbury, and even as far as the Merrimac River. It is said, "She began the smallest township in the Colony, and soon became the largest."

In these early days, there were few houses, and those of rude construction. Deputy Gov. Dudley about this time said, "In our New Town we have ordered that no man shall build his chimney with wood, or cover his house with thatch." The latter precaution was taken because there had been a house burned in Boston by taking fire on the roof. It was the desire and intention on the part of many to make New Town the metropolis of the Colony, instead of Boston.

On the establishment of Harvard University in 1638, it was ordered by the General Court, that New Town should henceforward be called Cambridge. A portion of the large territory on the south side of Charles River, once within the limits of New Town, had reverted to Boston and

Watertown, from whom they had been received; and the remainder, comprising nearly the whole of what was Brighton, and what now is Newton, was at this time called "the south side of Charles River," and sometimes Nonantum, the Indian name. During the first forty-eight years previous to its organization as a separate town, in 1688, only sixty families had become settlers on this territory, now Newton. The first, in 1639, were Deacon John Jackson, and Samuel Holly; in 1640, came Samuel Hyde; 1643, Edward Jackson; 1644, John Fuller; 1647, Jonathan Hyde and Richard Park; and these were followed by others, among whom we find the most prominent names were Prentice, Ward, Parker, Hammond, Wiswall, Kenrick, Trowbridge, Woodward, and Bacon, the descendants of whom are with us to-night.

About 1654 the territory south of Charles River was called Cambridge Village, or New Cambridge, and kept that name until it was set off as an independent town. The separation from the mother town was secured only after a long and bitter struggle. The village was "freed from contributing toward the ministry" on the Cambridge side in 1661. In 1672 they petitioned to be set off as a town; and in 1673 they were authorized "annually to elect one constable and three selectmen, dwelling among themselves, to order their prudential affairs of the inhabitants there, according to law, only continuing a part of Cambridge in paying county and country rates, as also town rates, so far as refers to the grammar school and bridge, and also pay their proportion of the charges of the

deputies of Cambridge." "This action of the court was not satisfactory to the village, and they did not accept or act under it" for some years; or at least there is no record of any action until 1679.

There seems to have been much feeling on both sides, as we conclude from some of the language used by the parties. The remonstrants said, "Those long-breathed petitioners rested not, but continued to bait their hooks and cast their lines into the sea, tiring out the courts with their eager pursuits, and obliging them to dance after their pipers for twenty-five years." They offered to purchase their freedom of the mother town; but this could not be accomplished. Cambridge, it is true, proposed to compromise; but our fathers would then accept nothing short of an independent town. For years they had not only supported their own minister and church, but had also been taxed — and that without their consent, which was very repugnant to their ideas of justice — to pay the yearly expenses of Cambridge. In 1678 they again petitioned to be set off, and continued to do so until 1687, when, on Jan. 11, Cambridge was summoned to appear before his Excellency in council, "to show cause why Cambridge Village may not be declared a place distinct by itself, and not longer be a part of said town, as hath been formerly petitioned for and now desired."

At a council held at Boston, on Wednesday the eleventh day of January, 1687, it was —

"*Ordered*, That the said village from henceforth be, and is hereby declared, a distinct village and place of itself, wholly freed and separated from the town of Cambridge, and from all future rates, payments, or duties to them whatsoever; and that, for the time to come, the charge of keeping, amending, and repairing the said bridge, called Cambridge Bridge, shall be defrayed and borne as followeth (that is to say): two-sixths parts thereof by the town of Cambridge, one-sixth part by the said village, and three-sixths parts at the public charge of the county of Middlesex.

"By order of Council, &c.

JOHN WEST, *Deputy Secretary*.

"This is a true copy taken out of the original record fourth day of December, 1688.

"As attest, LAUR. HAMMOND, *Clerk*."

This order shows conclusively that the town was not wholly independent until 1687, although the town records commence in 1679, when the inhabitants of the village seem to have first availed themselves of the privileges granted them in 1673, by choosing three selectmen and one constable, — all the officers they were authorized to choose, — to manage their "prudential affairs."

In further proof that they were not yet entitled to all the privileges of an incorporated town previous to 1687, is the fact that "they never assumed to send a deputy to the General Court distinct from Cambridge, but did not miss representation a single year for half a century after." People as tenacious of their rights as the inhabitants of the village manifestly were, both before and after incorporation, would not be likely to let the newly acquired right of representation lie dormant for seven years at a period of intense political excitement.

The records of Cambridge show that constables were elected by that town for the village, after 1679, as follows: viz., —

1680, James Prentiss.
1681, Sebeas Jackson.
1682, Edward Jackson.
1683, Abraham Jackson.
1684, John Prentice.
1685, Thomas Parker, sen.
1686, Ebenezer Wiswall.
1687, Joseph Wilson.

After 1688 none distinctly described as for the *village.*

" In 1686 a committee was chosen by the inhabitants to make the rate for the minister for the ensuing year, and a rate for the town; for the *village* chose Noah Wiswall to join with selectmen to make a rate for the village."

In addition are the "articles of agreement, made Sept. 17, 1688, between the selectmen of Cambridge and the selectmen of the village, in behalf of their respective towns.

" That whereas Cambridge Village, by order of the General Court in the late Government, was enjoined to bear their proportion of the charges in the upholding and maintaining of the great bridge and school, with some other things of a public nature, in the town of Cambridge; also, there having been some difference between the selectmen of said towns, concerning the laying of rates for the end above said: that the village shall pay to the town of Cam-

bridge the sum of five pounds in merchantable corn, at the former prices, at or before the first day of May next ensuing the date above, in full satisfaction of all dues and demands by the said town, from the said village, on the account above said, from the beginning of the world to the 11th of January, 1687–8."[1] This date corresponds exactly with the date of the order of the council incorporating the town.

Dr. Paige, the historian of Cambridge, from whom we have quoted, says in an article published in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, "Hence it appears reasonably certain that the village which obtained ecclesiastical privileges in 1661, became a precinct in 1673, and received the name of New-Town in 1691, was 'separated from the town of Cambridge,' and incorporated as a separate and distinct town, on the eleventh day of January, 1687."

Soon after becoming an independent town they were dissatisfied with their name; and on the eighth day of December, 1691, the General Court — in answer to the petition of Cambridge Village, or New Cambridge, lying on the south side of Charles River, praying that a new name be given to said town — ordered that it be called New Town, thus restoring the old name of this and other territory, which was discontinued in 1638.

This name appeared in two words; and that rule continued until 1766, when the town-clerk, Abraham Fuller,

[1] Or 1688, by the present style of reckoning.

entered it on the records, joining the two words, and leaving out the *w;* and gradually that form was adopted. Thus we acquired our present name without action of the General Court, or even of the town itself.

Hence we see that the territory now called Newton had, in connection with other territory and separately, been called New Town, Cambridge, Nonantum, South Side, Cambridge Village, New Cambridge, New Town, and lastly, when reduced in extent, Newton.

Among the first things to be provided for by our ancestors in Cambridge Village, was the preaching of the gospel, which was begun as early as 1656; and a meeting-house was built in 1660, in what is now called the "old burial-ground" on Centre Street, within whose consecrated limits may be found the resting-place of the pastor of the First Church, — John Eliot, son of the apostle to the Indians. The First Church was organized in 1664. Schools were not established for sixty years after the first settlers came here, though it is probable the children received instruction in the family.

The people of Newton, from the very first, took great interest in military affairs. It is said that in the old wars she furnished a large number of officers, who served the town and State with great fidelity. The men of Newton took a prominent part in all the Indian wars; and some lost their lives in that service. They were in King Philip's war, and in the defence of Medfield in 1676, where at least one Newton man was killed. The men of Newton were led, through sympathy with their brethren

of other towns, to aid them against invasion, and do what they could in a "common cause against a common enemy."

Though peace prevailed within the limits of their own settlement, they still thought it better to establish two garrison-houses for their protection against an invasion of the Indians. One of these garrison-houses is said to have stood on land opposite Hyde's Nursery, on Centre Street; and the other stood on the site now occupied by the heirs of Ephraim Ward, on Ward Street. This last house was taken down about 1820.

At this time the red men of the forest dwelt on these hills, hunted along these valleys, and fished in the beautiful river near whose banks we meet to-night. They were the original and rightful owners of the soil. Waban, the chief, dwelt on Nonantum Hill; and he and his tribe were early sought out by that faithful missionary, John Eliot, who devoted his life to this noble work.

Through the kindness of such Christian men, the Indians about Newton had come to regard the white men as their friends. Their chief, Waban, having become a convert to the religion of our divine Master, sought to follow his example in some degree; and thus was led to love his neighbors, even though they were white men. Not so with other Indians throughout New England: they "were wild, mischievous, cruel, and implacable." They were jealous of the whites. They saw evil impending, game driven away, their lands taken from them, their natural rights disregarded, their so-called religion condemned; and, in the eloquent words of the Rev. S. F.

Smith, "Resolved to drive out this new and unwelcome enemy, they conspired to burn the homes they had built, to break up and sweep away their settlements, to carry their wives and children into captivity, and to murder and scalp their men.

"But the English settlers deemed that 'the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof.' They scorned the red man's exclusive claim to these broad acres and living streams, to the woods and the hills, the corn-lands and the waterfalls. The fierce antagonism of the races was at once developed. The weaker were in due time compelled to yield to the stronger, till they had no longer a place in their ancient inheritance. But long and bitter was the struggle; and all the skill and strategy of the whites were brought into requisition, before the question was settled, that the white race must rule, and the red race must succumb.

"Long did the Indians hang on the borders of civilization, and watch for opportunities to annoy, to carry away, or to kill their enemies. But with a determined zeal the men of Newton left their sparse settlements in the wilderness, committing their wives and children to the God of battles; they endured bravely the hardships incident to travelling through pathless woods, with little food except the game they brought down with their guns, or caught with their fishing-nets.

"They outwitted, by their superior intelligence, their wily enemies; and helping one another through great emergencies, — now at Portland; now at Bethel in Maine,

whither some of their brethren had removed; now in New Hampshire, where the oldest captain, Noah Wiswall, was killed in 1690; now in Massachusetts, when John Myrick, Nathaniel Haley, and Ebenezer Seager were massacred in Groton; and anon carried the fortress of Mount Hope in Rhode Island, — they left no unconquered foe to plot against them, no red-skinned savage to light up the heavens with their burning dwellings at night, no barbarous invaders to murder and carry into captivity their wives and children. With a natural regard for their own brethren, their kindred in hardship and trials, as well as in nationality and blood, they rested not until they had chased the savages out of their wilderness and out of life, and thus secured a permanent peace."

In what is known as the old French war, Newton men were found at the front, and were in many engagements; and some lost their lives. Among the latter were Lieut. Timothy Jackson and Col. Ephraim Williams, the founder of Williams College.

We come now to the Revolutionary period in the history of the country, — a time calling for not only good resolutions, but for decided action; times that were to try men's souls, and test their fortitude and patience. The home government, on one pretence and another, sought to lay burdens on the Colonies in America which they were not willing to bear. They regarded themselves as loyal subjects, willing to own allegiance to the crown, but at the same time determined to enjoy all the rights of loyal British subjects, and submit to no injustice.

Thus we see that in 1765, at a town-meeting held on the twenty-first day of October, the citizens voted the following instructions to their representative to the General Court of Assembly: —

"To Capt. Abraham Fuller, Representative of said town: at this most important and alarming crisis, when the British American subjects are everywhere loudly complaining of arbitrary and unconstitutional measures and innovations, the Town of Newton judge it altogether improper to be wholly silent. We therefore, the freeholders and other inhabitants of said town, being legally assembled in our meeting-house, judge it proper to impart to you our united sentiments, more especially with regard to the Stamp Act (so called) by which a very grievous, and, we apprehend, unconstitutional tax, is laid upon the Colonies; and as it is a standing maxim of English liberty, that no man shall be taxed but with his own consent, so we very well know that we were in no sense represented in Parliament when this tax was imposed. By the Royal Charter granted to our ancestors, the power of making laws for our internal government, and levying taxes, is vested in the General Assembly; and, by the same charter, the inhabitants of this Province are entitled to all the rights and privileges of natural, free-born subjects of Great Britain. The most essential rights of British subjects are those of being represented in the same body which exercises the power of levying taxes upon them, and of having their property tried by juries; whereas this unconstitutional tax, or burthensome law, admits of our property being tried by courts of admiralty, without a jury: and consequently this at once destroys the most valuable privileges of our charter, deprives us of the most essential rights of Britons, and greatly weakens the best security of our lives, liberties, and estates.

"We therefore think it our indispensable duty, in justice to ourselves and to our posterity, as it is our reasonable privilege, to declare our greatest dissatisfaction with this law; and we think it incumbent on you by no means to join in any public measures for countenancing and

assisting in the execution of said act, but to use your best endeavors in the General Assembly to have the undeniable rights of the people of the Province asserted and vindicated, and left upon public record, that posterity may never have reason to charge the present time with the guilt of tamely giving them away.

. . . . . .

"*Voted*, that the foregoing be recorded in the town book, that posterity may see and know the great concern the people at this day had for their invaluable rights, privileges, and liberties."

Our fathers were not only jealous for their own rights, but for the rights of others as well; and when, in 1766, they heard that, in consequence of the passage of the Stamp Act, much property had been destroyed in Boston by rioters, they came together in town-meeting, and voted, "that a proper application made to the General Assembly (agreeable with the methods of Parliament) by the sufferers, the person who represents this town be directed and instructed, in his best discretion, to use what influence he may have, that such losses be made up in such a way and measure as may be most loyal and respectful to his Majesty, most safe relative to our invaluable rights, privileges, and liberties, and most kind and generous to the sufferers."

Thus they showed their kindness and generosity, even towards those who differed with them in regard to the expediency of the acts of the government.

They were an economical and prudent people, and also believed fully in protecting home manufactures. They did not like to be too dependent upon the mother country,

and be compelled to pay tribute to her in too many ways; and they shaped their conduct accordingly. We find that at a town-meeting held Nov. 23, 1767, they "voted unanimously, that this town will take all prudent and legal measures to encourage the produce and manufactures of this Province, and to lessen the use of superfluities, and particularly the following enumerated articles imported from abroad; viz., loaf-sugar, cordage, anchors, coaches, chaises, and carriages of all sorts, horse-furniture, men's and women's hats, men's and women's apparel ready made, household furniture, gloves, men's and women's shoes, sole leather, sheathing, duck, nails, gold and silver, and thread lace of all sorts, gold and silver buttons, wrought plate of all sorts, diamond, stone, and paste ware, snuff, mustard, clocks and watches, silversmith's and jeweller's ware, broadcloths that cost above ten shillings per yard, muffs, furs, tippets, and all sorts of millinery ware, starch, women's and children's stays, fire-engines, china-ware, silk and cotton velvets, gauze, pewterer's hollow ware, linseed oil, glue, lawns, cambrics, silk of all kinds for garments, malt liquors, and cheese."

Might it not tend to promote our prosperity as individuals, as families, as a nation, at this time, if we should adopt to some extent the substance of this vote, and depend more upon our own manufactures, and thus be compelled to send less gold out of the country to procure that which in many cases we can ill afford to purchase?

Some years later, in December, 1772, a town-meeting was held, and a committee appointed "to consider and

report what it may be proper for the town to do relating to the present unhappy situation of the country."

The result was, that at the meeting held in January, 1773, they voted instructions to their representative, Judge Abraham Fuller, to use his influence against the salaries of the judges of the Superior Court being fixed and paid by the crown, instead of by the Great and General Court. Their feeling was that such a course would tend to subvert public justice. They wished to have the General Court fix and pay such salaries as the merits and stations of the various judges demanded. They were very jealous of their rights, however remotely they were assailed.

About this time a letter was received from the town of Boston, which was read in town-meeting, and called for an answer, in which the voters of Newton commended very highly the position taken by Boston, and thanked them for the patriotic spirit for which they were distinguished, encouraging them "to persevere in all loyal, legal, regular, and constitutional methods for the redress of the grievances they felt, and for preventing those they had reason to fear."

It will be observed that there was no desire here expressed to use other than proper means to redress their grievances; and probably not a person in the colonies at this time seriously entertained the thought of taking up arms against the mother country.

In March of the same year (1773), a committee was chosen "to draft such measures as they shall think best for the town to adopt at this emergency," and also another

large committee "to confer with the inhabitants of the town as to the expediency of leaving off buying, selling, or using any India tea."

On the fourth day of January, of the year 1774, the town passed by a very full vote the following: —

"We do therefore, with firmness of mind, on mature deliberation, establish the following resolves: —

"1st, That an act passed in the last session of Parliament, empowering the Honorable East India Company to export tea to America, subject to a duty on its arrival in America, is a fresh attack upon our rights, craftily planned by a few of our inveterate enemies in the ministry, in order to establish a tax on us plainly contrary to the constitution of England itself, and glaringly repugnant to our charter, which we deem a grievance, greatly augmented by the partiality therein shown against millions of his Majesty's subjects in America, in favor of a few, very few, opulent subjects in Britain. This we cannot brook, and therefore bear solemn testimony against it.

"2d, That in justice to ourselves, our fellow-colonists, and our posterity, we can not nor will not voluntarily and tamely submit to this, or any tax laid on us for the express purpose of raising a revenue, when imposed without our consent, given by ourselves or our representatives.

"3d, That, as a part of the Colonies laboring under oppression, we are determined to join the rest in all and every lawful and just method of obtaining redress, or preventing the oppression, even to the risk of our lives and fortunes.

"4th, That all and every person or persons who have been, are, or shall be, advising or assisting in the aforesaid or any such acts, or are active in aiding in the execution of them, are (so far at least) inimical to this country, and thereby incur our just resentment; in which light we shall view all merchants, traders, and others, who shall henceforth presume to import or sell any India tea until the duty we so justly complain of be taken off.

"5th, That we each and every one of us will not, directly or indirectly, by ourselves or any for or under us, purchase or use any India tea while such tea is subject to a duty payable upon its arrival in America.

"6th, That a committee of correspondence be appointed to confer and correspond with the committees of any or all our sister towns in the Province as occasion may require."

On the 16th of December, 1773, there was a famous tea-party, such as had never been seen before, nor has been since. Newton was represented on that occasion by two or more of its citizens. One in particular, who drove a load of wood to market, staid very late that day, and was not very willing the next morning to explain the cause of his detention; but, as tea was found in his shoes, it is easy to understand what he had been doing.

Later, in the year 1774, we find that the town voted "that the Selectmen use their best discretion in providing fire-arms for the poor of the town, where they are unable to provide for themselves." Evidently, while in apparent peace, they felt it their duty to prepare for war; at least, to protect their lives and liberties.

In October, Newton sent delegates to the Provincial Assembly to be held at Concord; and early the next year, 1775, delegates were sent to a meeting of the same body in Cambridge.

During this year the town was presented with two field-pieces, and subscriptions were obtained to mount the same; and it was voted to raise men to exercise these pieces, and also to raise a company of minute-men, and thus be prepared for any emergency that might arise.

This action furnishes the explanation of the fact that Newton had so many men engaged in the battles of Lexington and Concord.

On the 19th of April, 1775, a day ever memorable in the history of our country, when the first battles of independence were fought at Lexington and Concord, Newton had three organized companies of minute-men, all of whom were present, and took part in the battles of that historic day, during which they marched about thirty miles.

The two hundred and eighteen men composing these three companies were not all that Newton sent to the battle-fields that day; for many went who had passed the military age, and so were exempt from duty, but who felt as did Noah Wiswall, the oldest man who went from Newton, and whose son commanded one of the companies, and who had other sons and sons-in-law in the fight. He could not be induced to remain at home, because, as he said, "he wanted to see what the boys were doing;" and, when shot through the hand by a bullet, coolly bound it up with a handkerchief, and brought home the gun of a British soldier who fell in the battle. The minute-men were commanded by Col. Michael Jackson, one of the most courageous men Newton ever produced. Such were the men, and such the spirit that animated them, — true minute-men, ready to face danger and even death in defence of the right.

Among the men of Newton who took a very active part, both with pen and sword, was Col. Joseph Ward. He was a master in one of the public schools of Boston; and on

the day of the battles of Lexington and Concord, learning that the British troops were in motion, left for Newton, where he obtained a horse and gun, and rode to Concord to animate his countrymen, and get a shot at the British. He greatly distinguished himself on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, where he served as aide-de-camp to Gen. Artemas Ward. He rode over Charlestown Neck, through a cross-fire of the enemy's floating batteries, to execute an order from Gen. Ward, at which time a broadside was fired at him by a British man-of-war.

He continued to hold important positions in the army, and enjoyed the honor of receiving the thanks of Gen. Washington in a letter written to him near the close of the war.

Soon after these earlier battles, two companies were raised in Newton, seventy-four men of whom joined the army in Cambridge for eight months. Of these seventy-four men, forty-eight were in Col. Gardner's Middlesex regiment, and participated in the perils and honors of the battle of Bunker Hill.

The following March these companies, with such as had been added, were sent, at the request of Gen. Washington, to take possession of Dorchester Heights, which proved a short service, as on the 17th of that month the British troops evacuated Boston, much to the joy of the good people of that town.

Soon after, one of those companies marched with an expedition to Canada.

The war had now lasted for more than a year. There

was open rebellion on every side. And while in the beginning it is doubtful if the masses contemplated a separation from the mother country, still the feeling in that direction had been waxing stronger and stronger, until many were ready to declare for independence.

It is seldom that such a spectacle has been presented in the world's history, — a handful, comparatively, of poor colonists, but meagrely equipped and provisioned, with little or no material of war, little trained in its arts, and without a navy, struggling against the proudest nation of the world, with its trained and veteran armies, its enormous resources, its powerful navy, with all the appliances of war both for sea and land. Surely even courageous men might well stand appalled at the prospect before them.

On the 10th of May, 1776, the General Court passed the following resolution : —

"*Resolved*, as the opinion of this House, that the inhabitants of each town in the Colony ought, in full meeting warned for that purpose, to advise the person or persons who shall be chosen to represent them in the next General Court, whether that if the Honorable Congress should, for the safety of these Colonies, declare them independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, they, the said inhabitants, will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure."

In response to this suggestion of the General Court, town-meetings were held during May, June, and the early part of July, in many if not all the towns of Massachusetts.

It is said that Boston held its meeting as early as the 23d of May. The meeting in Newton was called for the 17th of June, the first anniversary of a day made memorable in the annals of our country, by the heroic struggle on Bunker Hill, where Newton was well represented. On that day, in the busy season of the year, they left their fields and quiet homes, and gathered in town-meeting to discuss and pass upon a matter of vital importance to them, their posterity, and the world. This town-meeting on the 17th of June, 1776, is the day and the occasion we celebrate. Capt. John Woodward was the moderator, and the second article in the warrant was : —

"That in case the Honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American Colonies, declare them independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, whether the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure."

After debate the question was put, and the vote passed *unanimously* in the affirmative.

Bold and memorable words, that meant even more than they expressed! They meant sacrifice of comfort, fortune, home, friends, life if need be. All these were laid upon the altar. Independence! The right to govern themselves, to make their own laws, to choose or appoint their own officers, and pay them, representation or no taxation; in short, to enjoy all the rights of freemen.

For these things which they so highly valued, they were ready to pledge their "lives and fortunes."

That pledge so solemnly given was fully redeemed during the long and sanguinary struggle for the nation's independence.

In winter's snows and summer's heats the men of Newton were found, old and young, able and disabled, filling the ranks of the little American army. They formed a part of nearly every expedition, and were found on nearly every field, from the opening battles of Lexington and Concord to the final surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. All this the people of Newton did to redeem the pledges they had given, and to drive back from these shores the armies of those who sought to deprive them of their God-given rights of freedom.

Newton, then a little country town with only about fourteen hundred inhabitants, in town-meeting assembled, dared to adopt such a vote at the early stages of the war, more than two weeks before the Declaration of Independence was given to the country by the Continental Congress at Philadelphia, when no human eye could foresee the result of the struggle upon which they had entered; when failure meant they knew not what, — suffering, hardship, imprisonment, banishment, possibly death for treason.

Notwithstanding all, there was no uncertain sound. The bugle-blast for freedom had been sounded, the first gun fired, the first blood shed; the die was cast: henceforth let come what would, — life or death, — "liberty" was the watchword.

Newton entered upon the war of the Revolution with great vigor and spirit, contributing liberally both men and

means, as she always has done and always will do when her country calls.

No town in Massachusetts can show a more honorable record. It is said by the historian that nearly every man in Newton served in the army some time during the war.

In August, 1775, Capt. Jos. Fuller of Newton raised a company of ninety-six men, and marched to Bennington and Lake George to oppose Burgoyne.

The same year sixty-four men enlisted for three years in the war. In 1778 Capt. Edward Fuller raised a company of sixty-eight men.

In 1780 fifty-four men marched to re-enforce the Continental army. Jackson says in his history, "The number of men who served more or less in the Continental army and in the militia during the war was about four hundred, or about one-third of the entire population."

We cannot enumerate all that was done in furnishing men and means during the long and eventful struggle of the seven years of war, and what it cost in life and treasure.

The whole history of the town during all this time most fully shows that they fulfilled the pledge given in 1776.

We know they were few in number, poor, with little available means, the country new, sparsely populated, and, added to all, the money during the war was greatly depreciated. In illustration of this, it is recorded that in 1780 they voted altogether "£170,000, and the next year £400 in silver in lieu of £100,000 in bills."

We of to-day know something by experience of the depreciation incident to a long war; but it is little com-

pared with the state of affairs at that time. Yet we find there was no shrinking from duty; that men and women alike loaned of their private fortunes, while yet the result hung doubtful in the balance, to supply the wants of the soldiers.

As an index of the feeling of those days after the war, we give the following from a letter sent by the town to Capt. John Nutting in 1786, just before Shays' Rebellion: —

"We cannot consider public taxes grievances: they are a burden, it is true, which bear heavy upon us; but the public debt which we have voluntarily contracted is the price of our freedom and independence, and we feel ourselves bound by every principle of justice, and every tie of gratitude, honorably to discharge it."

No flinching then, or spirit of repudiation.

The history of the world scarcely affords a parallel to all our fathers did and suffered during the long struggle they endured in the sacred cause of liberty. Let us not forget that Newton enjoys the honor of having been the birthplace of one of the immortal band of men who signed the Declaration of Independence, — Roger Sherman, a name embalmed in the hearts of his countrymen as well as on the pages of history.

Not alone to the *men* of those days belongs the glory; but justice demands that we shall give due credit to women, who made as great if not even greater sacrifices than their fathers, husbands, sons, or lovers.

Volumes might be written of their self-denial and noble efforts in support of the cause; and, had it been the custom, many of them would have been ready to march, with musket in hand, with equal courage to the conflict. We never can fully know what they endured. All honor to the patient, self-sacrificing, noble women of Revolutionary days, a type of those who so nobly supported the right when the hand of treason was raised to destroy the nation's life during the great conflict, the recollection of which is still fresh in our memories!

The long war had passed, and the people were striving to repair the breaches, when a new danger arose in the form of a rebellion, known in history as Shays' Rebellion. Newton, true as ever, "voted to raise men in defence of the government," giving a bounty to each. They joined Gen. Lincoln's army, that surprised and drove out of Worcester County Shays and his thousand men, and thus crushed this rebellion.

Again we find that in 1798, at a general meeting of the freeholders, when the envoys of the United States had been denied a hearing by France, they adopted the following:—

"That whereas the citizens of this town did, at the memorable era when the great question of independence was decided by the American people, *unanimously* pledge their lives and fortunes to support the absolute sovereignty thereof, they now respect the solemn pledge, and will exert every power they possess to support the Constitution and the Government against the claims and aggressions of any foreign power, and all open and secret enemies to the Government and people of these United States."

This vote and resolve well illustrates the feelings of the men of those days. Of the part Newton took in the war of 1812, little is known, though it is to be presumed that she furnished men to fight in defence of the right, both on sea and land, and that she patiently suffered all the hardships, in the form of taxes and otherwise, incident to that time. We cannot take the time to dwell upon the progress the town has made in the arts of peace, the number of churches and schools that have been established and maintained, the internal improvements that have been made, the many objects of interest within her borders, the noble men she has produced, and the excellent position she has always enjoyed among the cities and towns of Massachusetts.

We now pass, to consider briefly — as time will not permit more — the past of Newton in the war of the Rebellion, the scenes and events of which are still well remembered.

From the opening gun fired on Sumter, April 12, 1861, until the close of the Great Rebellion, Newton nobly performed her part. Many who are here to-night participated in the events of those exciting days, either on the field of battle or in a less conspicuous and more humble sphere, but all doing what they could to crush out treason. The spirit that actuated the fathers was manifested by their sons.

Called upon to supply, during all those years of doubt and uncertainty, 1,067 men, she actually furnished 1,129, forming a part of thirty regiments. She furnished thirty-

six commissioned officers and two generals, all of whom, so far as we know, did gallant service for their country.

It is said that the "amount paid by the town and by individuals for military purposes, from the beginning of the war to near its close, was $138,457."

We believe from our own observation that a very much larger sum was contributed, in one way and another, for this purpose.

But what was money when compared to the valuable lives that were so freely given to the cause? According to the historian, Newton was largely represented in the First, Second, Seventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Twenty-fourth, Thirty-Second, and Thirty-third Regiments of infantry, and Second Regiment of cavalry, taking part in no less than seventy-five battles.

No enumeration of regiments with which they were connected, or battles in which they engaged, can convey a just idea of their heroic labor and sacrifices. These men gave themselves to their country in the hour of her need, and went forth in her defence. Where duty called they were found, — whether amid the malaria of Southern swamps, recruiting for the army; on the march, leading a forlorn-hope against the position of the enemy; or in that most terrible place of all, Andersonville, the mention of whose very name brings a thrill of horror to all hearts. They fell by the way on the long and tedious marches; they died of homesickness or wounds in the hospital; they went down before the rush of the enemy, and were killed, or reported missing, and never again heard from; they en-

dured privations and hardships such as we cannot tell or comprehend; and they did it all without murmur or complaint, for the love and respect they had for the heroes of '76, and their regard for the liberty and good name of their country, for their homes and firesides, and the still more tender regard for the dear ones in those homes whose prayers and good wishes never ceased to follow them amid all their wanderings. They loved their homes and firesides as we do ours, but loved their country more.

The spirit that actuated them was well illustrated by one who said, "If my country needs my services, I am willing for her sake to make the sacrifices," — Charles Ward, who fell at Gettysburg.

Some, not content with one term, re-enlisted, and suffered on as though they could not do enough. Their bravery and self-denial surely will not suffer in comparison with the heroes of any age or clime. It was the privilege of some of us to know many of these men, and see them in the camp, on the march, in the hospital, and on distant fields where danger threatened; and we can cheerfully bear testimony to their devotion. Some still with us bear honorable badges of that terrible conflict through which the nation was called to pass, — an ordeal of fire and blood.

"Peace hath her triumphs no less than war." No longer the sound of the bugle calling to battle, or the tramp of armies, is heard; no longer comes from the battlefield the booming of cannon, the bursting of shells, and the groans of the dying. Mourning has not wholly ceased in many broken circles, and cannot while we remember the dearly

loved ones with whom we have spent happy hours, and with whom we were so tenderly united, who went forth in their pride and strength to do their duty, but whose voices are heard no more on earth.

"Too sad the theme: yet Memory loves to cast
Her tender, tearful glances o'er the past,
Lure back the vision of each old delight,
And link by link the circle re-unite;
Force from departed joys a luscious pain,
As withered roses crushed breathe sweets again."

Though the effects of the war remain, teaching us some lessons we may not desire to learn; though we are as a nation suffering to-day,—still we have no reason to be discouraged. We have duties to perform as men and citizens. We have to purge ourselves, our State and nation, of all unworthy and dishonest office-holders and office-seekers, to purify the ballot-box, to seek to elevate the standard of political morality, to place only such men in power as will be true and honest, that will legislate and labor for the highest good of all, and so endeavor as fully as possible to put our nation right both before God and man.

When we consider the meagre resources of our fathers after the war of the Revolution, and remember our own strength to-day, certainly we can but take courage.

He who upheld and guided, amid wild waves and stormy seas, the little bark that contained the germ of this great nation; who watched over the little band of Pilgrims

on the cold, inhospitable shores of New England, surrounded by winter's snows, wild beasts, and still more savage red men; who gave victory and success to the infant colonies, and brought them through all the dark days of the Revolution; who has guided us through years of treason and rebellion; who has brought a whole race out of bondage, and set it in the clear light of liberty; who has crowned our lives with blessings without number, — surely He will not leave us now, if we trust in Him, but will bless us, and give us so much prosperity as is best for us.

An hundred years have passed since our fathers met in their little town-meeting, in the small meeting-house (where now stands Dr. Furber's church), and consecrated themselves and their fortunes to the cause of freedom and their country. Then a straggling town: now a considerable city. Then only a single church: now more than twenty. Then here and there a highway, or rather a lane: now with its hundred and twenty or more miles of excellent streets. Then its small schoolhouses with short terms and rudimental teaching: now schoolhouses of magnificent proportions, with schools almost without number of all grades, to say nothing of the private academies and higher institutions of learning within our limits. Then only a few farms with their quaint-looking farmhouses: now beautiful villages, with stately blocks of buildings, palatial residences, well-kept villas, and cosey cottages, showing taste and culture on every hand.

Then the quiet of the forest, scarcely broken except by

the song of birds and hum of insects: now the rush and noise of heavy engines and railroad-trains whirling along with the speed of the wind. Then no electric telegraph to flash its messages from continent to continent, and thus "put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes;" no ocean-steamers crossing the broad Atlantic, and bringing the nations of the earth into more intimate relations; no missionaries on foreign shores preaching Christ to dying men; no city library with its rich stores gathered from all ages and nations. How great the change in a single century!

The sun shines upon no spot on earth more highly cherished than our dear old birthplace, Newton, with its glorious record and rich memories, the gallant deeds of its heroes and martyrs, its faithful ministers of Christ, its churches and schools, its academies and colleges, its long line of noble Christian men and women whose records, though possibly unwritten, are not unknown, its pure record of religion, temperance, and morality. Surely as we contemplate the past, and consider the present, let the recollection be a constant incentive to us and our children; that we may prove worthy of the lineage we bear and the goodly heritage we enjoy.

After Mr. Hyde had concluded his address, the choir sang two verses of Whittier's "Centennial Hymn:" —

"Our fathers' God! from out whose hand
The centuries fall like grains of sand,
We meet to-day, united, free,
And loyal to our land and thee,
To thank thee for the era done,
And trust thee for the opening one.

Oh! make thou us, through centuries long,
In peace secure, and justice strong;
Around the gift of freedom draw
The safeguards of thy righteous law,
And, cast in some diviner mould,
Let the new cycle shame the old!

The singing was followed by the reading of an original poem by the Rev. I. N. Tarbox, D.D., entitled, —

NEWTON, JUNE 17, 1776–1876.

You have heard of ancient sages,
How they wrought along the ages,
What their genius had invented,
And their wisdom handed down:
Go and search the wide earth over,
Did those wise men e'er discover
Such a nice and rare contrivance
As an old New England town?

'Tis a purely Yankee notion,
All unknown beyond the ocean,
  First constructed by our fathers,
    Patented along our coast ;
And, while kingly thrones are fleeting,
Still abides the old town meeting,
  Nurse of orators and patriots,
    Our New England's pride and boast.

There was nothing, it is stated,
Nothing which the British hated
  More than these New England townships,
    And their ways of doing things ;
No more pestilent promoters
Of rebellion than those voters
  Gathered in the lonely valleys,
    Gathered by the mountain springs.

Just a century has departed,
Since those farmers, honest-hearted,
  In this ancient town of Newton,
    Were in special session met,
Summoned by the State's suggestion,
Called to meet that mighty question,
  Whether they would bear the burdens
    Of Old England's growing debt ;

Whether they, unrepresented,
Would, if it could be prevented,
  Go and come at England's bidding,
    Or would dare to go alone ;
Was it wise to suffer longer,
Till the tyrant's chain grew stronger,
  Or to spurn this harsh dominion,
    And despise the ancient throne ?

They were gathered, as was fitting,
In their place of Sunday sitting;
For no house could be too holy
For the work they had to do;
And their pastor's prayer ascended, —
Prayer where hope and fear were blended, —
Asking God to guard and guide them,
All their fearful journey through.

Deacon Woodward, moderator,
Captain, deacon, and debater,
Chosen by his fellow-townsmen,
Rises now to state the case:
From the standpoint of his station,
Let us fancy that oration
Fitted to the weighty subject,
Fitted to the time and place: —

"Townsmen, we are met together
To confer, and find out whether
We will vote for independence,
Understanding what we do:
Trying times are passing o'er us,
And more trying years before us
Call us all to bear our burdens,
Call us to be firm and true.

One year since, at dawn of morning,
Without note or sign of warning,
You recall that mighty uproar
Sounding out from Boston Bay;
How our town awoke and wondered,
While the British war-ships thundered,
And the hills took up the echoes,
All that sultry summer day.

You recall that earlier rally,
When across Charles River valley,
All along the road to Concord,
Over field and wood and glen,
Newton sent her swift pursuers,
Sent her bold and earnest doers,
Hung around those flying columns
With two hundred minute-men.

For our younger men and older
Brought their guns that day to shoulder ;
Beardless striplings, new-made freemen,
Fathers of threescore and ten,
Left their farms, — unyoked their cattle, —
Went to join that rambling battle,
And the town was left deserted
Of its able-bodied men.

In the morning, oh, how proudly
Marched those red-coats boasting loudly,
Scattering wild dismay and terror,
All along their outward track !
But they fell on sore disaster,
And kept going fast and faster,
Glad to find some place of refuge,
On their bloody journey back.

When the heaps of dead and dying
On those Charlestown slopes were lying,
As the peaceful sun was setting,
Just one year ago to-day,
Then their haughty boasting ended :
They had seen these heights defended
With a skill and strength and firmness
Such as filled them with dismay.

Now those troops have left our borders,
And we gave their marching orders, —
Gave them from those rocky highlands
Where they could not be denied ;
They have packed their trunk and basket,
And set sail from old Nantasket,
Somewhat modest in demeanor,
Slightly humbled in their pride.

When they went they took the Tories,
Loaded them in skiffs and dories,
Took with them their goods and chattels,
Landed them at Halifax ;
But our shores are none the poorer,
And our cause is safer, surer :
Rather than to see their faces,
We prefer to see their backs.

So the British did not enter
By the gate of their first venture :
They have made an ocean circuit,
Gone to find some safer way ;
But the future opens dimly,
For the war-cloud settles grimly,
Dark, portentous of disaster,
Round about Manhattan Bay.

Congress asks us, are we ready ?
Will our hearts prove true and steady ?
If it makes the Declaration,
By that record will we stand ?
Though the future days be dreary,
Though the way be long and weary,
Will we calmly bide the issue
For our God and native land ?

But I know your firm devotion,
And I now await your motion,
Confident of your decision,
Knowing well what you will do;
And may God who ruleth o'er us
Guard and guide, and go before us,
Give us strength amid the conflict,
Bear us all the struggle through!"

We have given thus compactly,
Though it may be not exactly,
What good Captain Woodward uttered,
What the moderator said;
But the open signs betoken
That the deacon must have spoken
Just about as we have stated,
Under the foregoing head.

There was no reporter's table,
And we therefore are not able,
Here on this our centenary,
To repeat him word for word;
But the evidence internal
Is a kind of "Newton Journal,"
And that speech of Captain Woodward,
All those Newton voters heard.

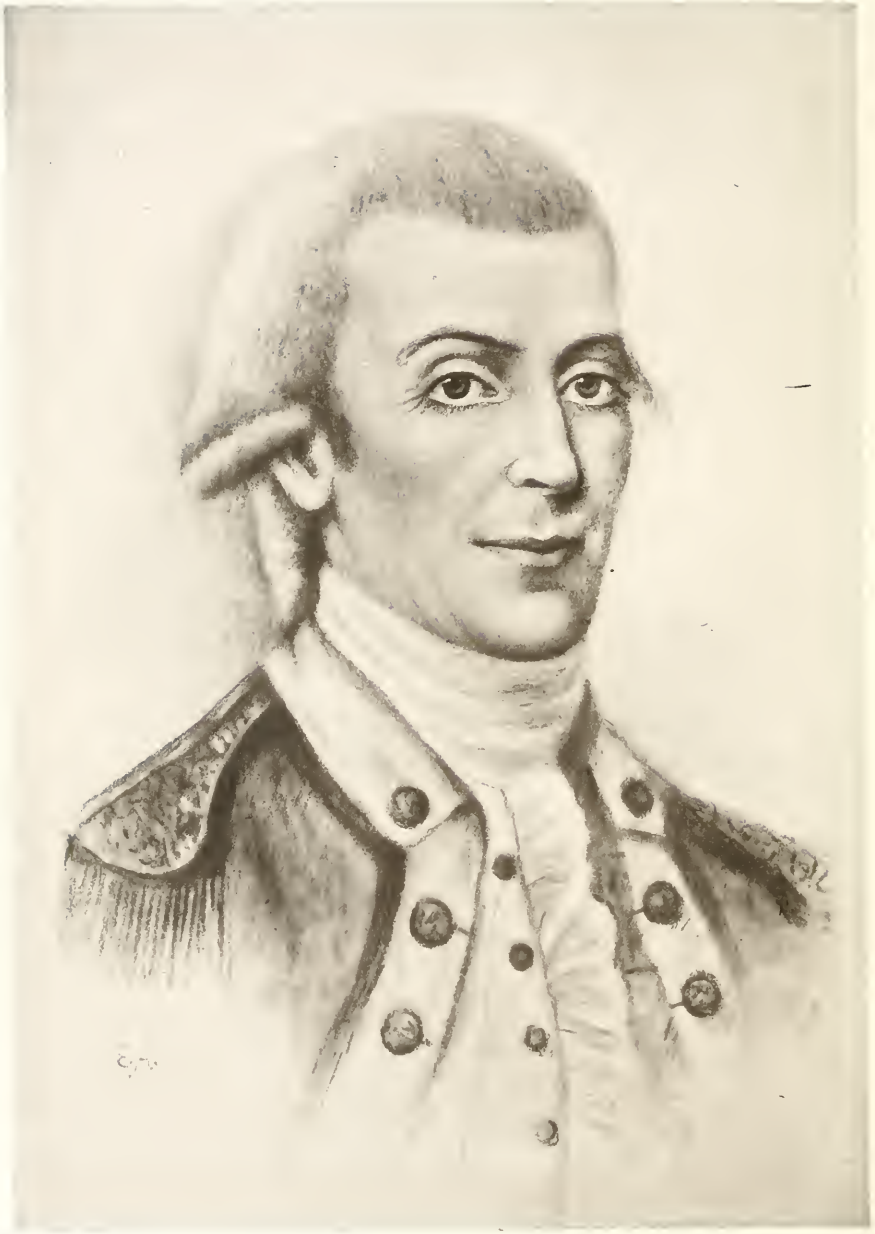
For there was a full attendance,
And they voted INDEPENDENCE
By a hand-vote, *viva voce*,
Or some way to voters known;
And by their united action,
Free from all debate and faction,
That day's work no doubt assisted
To upset the British throne.

Who it was that made that motion,
Reaching thus across the ocean,
Or who seconded the measure,
Cannot certainly be told;
And no ancient record teaches
Who got up and made those speeches:
Pity there were no reporters
In those simple days of old!

If we had some little taper
In the shape of morning paper,
Dated Tuesday, June the eighteenth,
Seventeen hundred seventy-six,
As those times were stern and solemn,
Possibly the base-ball column
Could have been a trifle crowded
Those small paragraphs to fix.

But against our base-ball players,
Let us not be found gainsayers:
They can show their killed and wounded,
Even in these days of peace;
And by their productive labor,
Each club betting with its neighbor,
They may raise our low finances,
Make our corn and oil increase.

But although our knowledge reaches
Not to motives, acts, and speeches,
And while many minor matters
Cannot certainly be known,
What those Newton farmers *voted*,
Word for word can still be quoted;
And they pledged their lives and fortunes,
Every thing they called their own.



So they broke the chains that bound them,
Burst the network woven round them,
And with high, uplifting purpose,
Dared to tread their unknown way:
Let us learn what they have taught us,
Prize the heritage they bought us,
And recount their ancient virtues
On this glad Centennial Day.

The next incident in the order of proceedings was the presentation to the city of a crayon portrait of Col. JOSEPH WARD, from citizens of Newton; which duty was gracefully executed by Mr. WILLIAM C. BATES, in the following address: —

MR. MAYOR AND FELLOW-CITIZENS, — The late Mr. Francis Jackson, one of a family renowned for the best qualities of good citizenship, and one whose lightest suggestion will be received by a Newton audience with great respect, has left upon the last page of his history of Newton these words referring to Col. Joseph Ward, who was born in Newton in 1737, and who died early in the present century: "The public services and private virtues of Col. Ward ought to be remembered and perpetuated in some way, either by a monument to his memory, or otherwise. I leave to the citizens of his native town this suggestion for their consideration." It is not often, fellow-citizens, that good words fitly spoken bear fruit even in twenty years; but these of our local historian to-day are ripening.

This crayon portrait of Col. Joseph Ward has been executed at the instance of several gentlemen of Newton;

and it is hoped, Mr. Mayor, that it may find an appropriate place in our public library, and be for a long time to come a reminder that virtue in the conduct of public affairs, and purity of private life, are qualities which cease not their influence at death, but remain to be for all future generations example and inspiration.

The character of Col. Ward is pre-eminently one which will bear the strong light thrown upon it by a hundred years of intervening history.

There is a legend connected with the vegetable world, which relates that the aloe, or century-plant, after distilling for a hundred years its sweet juices from the beneficent earth and the gentle dews of heaven, at last bursts forth in such luxuriance of beauty and fragrance, that three generations of men may well wait for the seeming miracle. However the truths of botanical knowledge may dispel the illusion, it is certain that this year our American century-plant is in full flower; and we have invited the world to witness the beauty, and inhale the fragrance. But, after all, the permanent benefits are to remain with us; and these, it seems to me, are to be found in the better acquaintance we are getting with our heroes of '76. . . . Col. Ward of Newton was one of these heroes.

Public attention has been so recently called to the interesting details of his career, that it seems unnecessary to detain you at this time in their consideration. Pardon me the relation (at the risk of repetition) of a single incident of which I am reminded by these two pistols upon the desk before me.

At the battle of Bunker Hill, Mr. Ward was aide-de-camp to Gen. Artemas Ward the then commander-in-chief, whose headquarters were at Cambridge; and was engaged in carrying orders thence to the devoted band of patriots on the heights of Charlestown. Early in the day the British gunboats swept the Neck with their batteries, rendering a horseback ride across extremely hazardous; but our young patriot hesitated not, and became a prominent mark for a broadside from the enemy's guns, escaping uninjured.

On arriving at Cambridge a few weeks later, and learning of the affair, Washington, seldom moved to enthusiasm, addressed him a personal letter of thanks, and presented him with a pair of pistols, *these* pistols. It is fair to suppose that the commander-in-chief, with that nice attention to the details of etiquette for which he was distinguished at the busiest times of his life, gave to these little weapons his personal inspection, and presented them with the charm of his personal presence. Venerable mementos of another age, — I confess, ladies and gentlemen, I cannot behold them without profound emotion, twin relics as they are of our Newton patriot and the immortal Washington.

The character of Col. Ward was such that those who knew him spoke of him as "an amiable patriot," "a kind friend, and a just man." "The Columbian Centinel" at his death spoke of him in these words of eulogy: "In public transactions justice was his pole-star, and truth the guide of his conduct; his talents adorned, and his virtues were

the charm of his private life. The influence of religion over his mind was equally conspicuous, whether warmed by the genial sun of prosperity, or chilled by the wintry blast of adversity."

Washington wrote to him, "The favorable sentiments of a good man, and one who has faithfully performed and diligently executed the duties of his station, cannot fail of being agreeable. I thank you for your good wishes."

Can we believe for a moment, fellow-citizens, that affectionate veneration for such a character as this is but an "idle sentiment"? No, a thousand times no! let us rather welcome it for what it is, — a perpetual benediction.

But I will not detain you, ladies and gentlemen. You have seen enough, I trust, to make you feel with me that this is —

> "One of the few, the immortal names
> That were not born to die."

There are three grandchildren of Col. Ward from a distant town so fortunate as to be present to join with you in this tribute to their ancestor. They have brought this wreath of laurel-leaves, which with reverent hands I place above his portrait.

Mr. Mayor, I have now the honor, in behalf of the gentlemen who have contributed to its purchase, to confide this portrait of Col. Joseph Ward to you, the official representative of the City of Newton.

The mayor received the portrait in behalf of the city, and promised to cherish it as a valuable memento of an honored and distinguished citizen of Newton.

"America" was then sung by the choir, the audience joining.

"My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

Our fathers' God, to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light:
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King!

The celebration was closed by a benediction pronounced by Rev. HENRY MACKAY, Rector of St. Mary's Church.

At the close of the proceedings, the hospitalities of the city were tendered to the governor and staff, and other distinguished visitors, in the banqueting hall below.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CORRESPONDENCE.

*Newton, March 22, 1876.

To His Excellency Alex. H. Rice, *Governor of the State of Massachusetts.*

Sir, — In behalf of the City Government of the City of Newton, and in accordance with what we know to be the wishes of a large number of our citizens, we most respectfully solicit your attendance at the celebration which the City Government propose to have on the evening of the 17th of June, next at 7.30.

The occasion will be to endeavor to duly honor the memory and the deeds of the noble men who, one hundred years ago, on the 17th of June, 1776, in town meeting assembled, passed the following vote: "That in case the Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American Colonies, declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, whether the inhabitants of the town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure." It was passed by a *unanimous* vote.

As a justly honored son of Newton, your presence will be most heartily welcomed; and we are well assured that the inspiration will not be wanting to give you utterance fitting the occasion.

G. D. Gilman,
James F. Edmands,
J. Sturgis Potter,
D. S. Simpson,
Rufus Moulton,

Joint Special Committee of Arrangements.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
BOSTON, May 26, 1876.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, &c.

Gentlemen, — I have received your valued favor of the 22d inst., and beg to say that I expect to enjoy the pleasure of being with you in my native Newton on the coming 17th of June, and I shall permit nothing but necessity to prevent me from carrying out that purpose.

I am, my dear sirs, with great respect,

Yours very truly, ALEX. H. RICE.

*

WEST NEWTON, March 22, 1876.

TO THE HON. JAMES F. C. HYDE, *ex-Mayor of Newton*.

Dear Sir, — In behalf of the committee of the City Government of Newton, we respectfully invite you to address our citizens assembled at Eliot Hall, Ward 7, on the evening of June 17 next, at 7.30.

The occasion will be the one hundredth anniversary of passing the vote by the inhabitants of the then town, in town meeting assembled, pledging their lives and fortunes in support of "Independence."

But so recently associated with the City Government, after years of service in town affairs, and ever ready with heart and hand for the best interests of our beloved municipality, we confidently hope for your acquiescence to the wishes of our people.

I have the honor to be for the Committee, yours truly,

G. D. GILMAN, *Chairman*.

NEWTON HIGHLANDS, April 10, 1876.

TO MESSRS. G. D. GILMAN, JAMES F. EDMANDS, J. STURGIS POTTER, D. S. SIMPSON, *and* RUFUS MOULTON, *Esqs.*

Gentlemen, — Yours of March 22 was duly received, inviting me to address the City Government and citizens of Newton on the evening of June 17 next. I accept the invitation in the kindly spirit in which it is extended to me, hoping I may be able to meet your expectations, and present some matters of interest in the history of my native town.

With kind regards, I am yours truly,

JAMES F. C. HYDE.

West Newton, March 23, 1876.

Rev. I. N. Tarbox, D.D.

Dear Sir, — The City Government of Newton have decided to appropriately celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the passing, by the inhabitants of the town of Newton in town meeting assembled, of the now historical vote whereby it was unanimously voted, "Solemnly to engage with their lives and fortunes to support the measure of independence."

In behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, you are respectfully invited to address the people assembled at Eliot Hall, Ward 7, on the evening of June 17, at 7.30; and would express the wish that your thoughts take the form of a poem for the occasion.

Very respectfully, for the Committee,

G. D. Gilman, *Chairman.*

Boston, April 14, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I received your kind note asking me, in behalf of the City of Newton, to give a poem on the occasion of the centennial celebration, June 17. Though I fear I shall not be able to do justice to so important an anniversary, yet I am grateful for your favor in asking me, and I will endeavor to perform the duty to the best of my ability.

Very truly yours,

Increase N. Tarbox.

Newton Centre, May 22, 1876.

Dear Sir, — Yours of the 20th is received, communicating to me a request that I offer the prayer at the celebration of the 17th of June.

As there seems to be a propriety in the oldest church being represented on the occasion, I shall endeavor to comply with the request. With many thanks,

Respectfully and very truly yours,

D. S. Furber.

NEWTON LOWER FALLS, June 8, 1876.

Dear Sir, — It is with sincere pleasure and heartfelt honor, I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favor, inviting me to participate in the city of Newton celebration, and also my acceptance of the same.

The day is an auspicious one, and well befits the distinguished patriotism, faithfulness, and bravery of Newton's gallant sons in fighting for liberty and independence.

America was not wanting in Hampdens, and Newton was forward early in sending her sons to the front. May the city of Newton, distinguished alike for scenic beauties and for patriotism, be ever ready to march to the front to uphold, maintain, and defend in virgin, undefiled honor, the integrity of our nation! May her constellated banner go forward with her many stars undimmed; may her stripes prove to be the obsignation of defence and liberty to men and women yet unborn; and may Newton's sons in the future, as in the past, be among the standard-bearers of liberty! To the city of Newton — ESTO PERPETUA!

I have the honor to be

Your faithful servant,

H. MACKAY.

NEWTON, June 8, 1876.

My Dear Sir, — I gratefully accept the invitation extended to me by your Committee to participate in the centennial exercises to be held June 17. The forefathers of Newton by their vote helped to make possible the Declaration of Independence. The resolves of the Newton town meeting held June 17, 1776, were to this town what the utterances of Independence Hall in Philadelphia July 4, 1776, were to the nation.

I appreciate the honor you confer in giving me a part on this memorial occasion.

Faithfully yours,

W. E. HUNTINGTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

NEWTON, June 12, 1876.

HON. SAMUEL C. COBB, *Mayor of Boston.*

Dear Sir, — The Committee of Arrangements for the City Government of Newton would request the pleasure of your company on the occasion of the centennial celebration of June 17, 1776. On that day the freemen of the town of Newton, after due discussion, voted unanimously, "That we solemnly engage with our lives and fortunes to support the measure of independence."

It will be especially gratifying to the City Government of Newton to have you with us on such an interesting anniversary, one which recalls the early days of our national life, when the men of Newton stood with those of Boston in defence of the heights of Bunker Hill.

G. D. GILMAN, *Chairman.*

Mayor Cobb was compelled by imperative engagements to decline the invitation.

LETTER FROM MAYOR COBB.

CITY HALL, BOSTON, June 14, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I very much regret that imperative engagements will compel me to forego the pleasure and honor of attending the celebration at Newton on the 17th inst., to which you so kindly invite me.

When the men of Newton, in 1776, "solemnly engaged with their lives and fortunes to support the measures of Independence," they put on their records a glorious pledge, the courage and self-sacrificing spirit of which should be contemplated with proud and grateful satisfaction by their descendants, and one which deserves all the emphasis that a public ceremonial can give it now.

I trust that Boston will be amply represented on the occasion by her citizens, so many of whom are connected with your people by ties of kinship, friendship, and business.

While in these centennial celebrations of Boston we seek to renew the bonds of amity and brotherhood that unite us with distant cities and

States, we certainly shall not overlook our next-door neighbors, with whom we are happily associated in the affairs of daily life ; men who are bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh, and whose fathers stood up with our fathers so fervently and manfully in the great struggle and trial of a hundred years ago.

Those were dark and distressing days. Heaven grant you a very bright and happy one next Saturday! With cordial regards I am

Respectfully yours,

SAM'L C. COBB, *Mayor.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

LETTER FROM HON. ROBERT C. WINTHORP.

BROOKLINE, June 14, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I pray you to present to the Committee of Arrangements, and to receive for yourself, my most grateful acknowledgments of their obliging invitation for Saturday evening next.

It would give me the highest gratification to meet my friend Gov. Rice on such an occasion, and to unite with your City Government in commemorating the patriotic action of the men of Newton in 1776.

I regret sincerely that circumstances beyond my control will deprive me of the privilege of being present.

Believe me, dear sir, respectfully and truly,

Your obedient servant,

ROB'T C. WINTHROP.

G. D. GILMAN, Esq., *Chairman Committee of Arrangements.*

LETTER FROM REV. JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE.

JAMAICA PLAIN, June 3, 1876.

Dear Sir, — It is very kind of you to invite me to the Newton Centennial ; and, if I were not to be at Cincinnati at that time, I should certainly accept the invitation.

It is true that I was not born in Newton, but in Hanover, N.H., where my parents were temporarily residing. But as their real home was in Newton, both before and after that time, and as my ancestors on both sides, up to my great grand-parents on one side, and on the other side my mother's ancestors the Fullers, from the founding of the town being residents of Newton; and as I moved to Newton when I was two months old myself, and lived there until I went to college; as there is scarcely an acre of the town I did not ramble over during my boyhood, or was not familiar with, — I should claim the privilege on these grounds of being with you. My grandfather Freeman's place, and that of my grandfather Hull, always seemed to me the most charming home in the world; and I make an annual pilgrimage to Newton to refresh my memory of the familiar places.

"Here," I say, "lived Mr. Brackett; here Mr. Ward or Hyde or Trowbridge or Harback; this was 'Rural Cave;' here lived the good old minister, my Uncle Homer; and here in Baptist Pond we once set sail, my brothers and I, in a fragile bark made by ourselves to catch perch. This was the house of the Lorings, of the Tuckers, the Cabots; and in the depths of the woods was 'Cold Spring,' where we caught our first trout." Such are the recollections that come over me at the thought and name of Newton; and gladly would I be with you on your anniversary, if it were in my power.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE.

LETTER FROM HON. RICHARD FROTHINGHAM.

CHARLESTOWN, June 17, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I have the honor to receive your invitation to attend your celebration to-day, and thank you for it. There cannot be a more profitable centennial than that of the noble action of Newton. But my engagements are such as will prevent me from the pleasure of being with you.

With great respect to the Committee,

Yours truly,

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM.

LETTER FROM THE SON OF COL. WARD.

SPENCER, MASS., June 15, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I wrote you some days since that my health would not permit me to be with you and the good people of Newton on the 17th ; and, as the day of celebration draws nigh, I more and more regret that I cannot accept the kind invitation of you and the Committee. It is a comfort to me however, that some of my family will be there, where my ancestors and their descendants have lived for more than two hundred years. The old Revolutionary pistols which were a gift from Gen. Washington to my father soon after the General took command of the army, and a short time after the battle of Bunker Hill, I will send, as some of the people at the celebration may like to look upon a gift from George Washington more than one hundred years ago. I am not a letter-writer, but my heart is full. I feel most grateful to you and the people of my native town for what they have done and are doing for the memory of my father ; and as I write tears come to my eyes, and I feel that I never shall forget these acts of kindness while I live and can remember. God bless the people of Newton !

I am, dear sir, most respectfully yours,

DENNIS WARD.

ANDOVER, MASS., June 13, 1876.

My Dear Sir, — I am very sorry to be under the necessity of stating that I shall be unable to visit Newton on the 17th inst.

If my engagements allowed I should have been very happy to comply with your very polite invitation.

I doubt not the exercises of the evening will be highly interesting. I feel a deep interest in the city of Newton, and I exceedingly regret my inability to be present at the approaching celebration.

Very respectfully, your friend and servant,

EDWARDS A. PARK.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

LEXINGTON SENDS CENTENNIAL GREETING TO NEWTON.

The following letter was received from the Selectmen of Lexington, by the Centennial Celebration Committee : —

LEXINGTON, June 14, 1876.

Dear Sir, — Your note of the 13th is at hand, inviting the Selectmen of Lexington to participate in your centennial gathering. Please accept our sincere thanks for your cordial invitation. A previous engagement alone prevents our being with you to participate in so important an occasion as the centennial anniversary of the dedication of the lives and fortunes of the citizens of Newton to the principles of free government, whose baptismal font was our own honored green. It is fitting indeed, that on this our centennial year we should turn back to those days when our fathers consecrated their all to a common principle, when integrity was synonymous with patriotism and an undying devotion to universal liberty. Let that same integrity be the watchword of the hour; plant it deep in the minds of the rising generation: and we can await the future with unerring certainty. Respectfully yours,

WEBSTER SMITH,
OTIS WENTWORTH,
ALBERT W. BRYANT,
Selectmen of Lexington.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

CONCORD TO NEWTON.

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE, CONCORD, June 14, 1876.

TO COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS, NEWTON, MASS.

Messrs., — Thanks for your invitation to be present on the 17th inst., at your memorial celebration of the events of one hundred years ago. We esteem it a great privilege as well as a sacred duty, at all times to do honor to the memory of those noble men who so solemnly and so cheerfully pledged "their lives and their fortunes" in support of the independence of these United States, and who so faithfully redeemed their pledge.

We gladly accept the honor conferred upon us, and through us upon those whom we represent; and, if nothing happens to prevent, will give ourselves the pleasure to participate with you in the enjoyment of that occasion. Your obedient servants,

SELECTMEN OF CONCORD,
BY CHAS. THOMPSON, *Chairman.*

A letter from the son of Peter Hammond, Newton's oldest citizen, in his one hundred and first year, dated Geneseo, Ill., June 9, after stating the arrangements that had been made to send the picture and autograph of his father, adds: —

GENESEO, ILL., May 24, 1876.

Dear Sir, — My father wishes me to express to you and your Honorable Mayor his sincere thanks for your kind invitation to be present at your centennial celebration. He says it would be gratifying to him to be present at the time named; but owing to the long distance to travel, and the approaching warm weather, and infirmities of age, says he must forego the pleasure of accepting the invitation. I have often heard father speak of his native town with a great deal of interest, and I think he yet cherishes its memory. Father's health is now very good, much better than it was when he commenced his one hundredth year.

Hoping father's excuse will be satisfactory, I am very truly yours,

JOS. HAMMOND.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

HEADQUARTERS CO. C, 1ST REGT. M. V. M.,
NEWTON, June 14, 1876.

Dear Sir, — I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note inviting the Claflin Guard to participate in the ceremonies of the centennial celebration on the 17th of June; and in their behalf accept the same, with many thanks for the honor conferred upon us.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

F. N. BROWN, *Captain commanding Co. C.*

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Newton Lower Falls, May 20, 1876.

To the Chairman of the Centennial Celebration Committee, &c.

Dear Sir, — Your invitation to "Chas. Ward Post 62, G. A. R.," to parade on the evening of the 17th of June, and join in the exercises at Eliot Hall, was accepted by action of the Post, at their regular meeting last evening, and a Committee chosen to confer with the Committee of the City Government.

Yours truly,

David A. Conant, *Commandant.*

The following letter of acceptance was received from Hon. John C. Park, in answer to the invitation of the Committee of Arrangements to deliver the Oration on the Fourth of July : —

Newton, June 12, 1876.

Gorham D. Gilman, Esq.

Dear Sir, — The highly flattering invitation from the Committee of Arrangements of the City Government of Newton to deliver an address before them and the citizens, on the Fourth of July next, which you, as Chairman of the Committee, so kindly communicated to me, has been carefully considered.

The proclamation of our national President — he having in view a most desirable result (historical sketches of the various towns and cities throughout the Union) — led me to hesitate. I felt that it would be impossible for me in three weeks to do justice to the history, progress, and reputation of this ancient town, now the perfection of cities.

But learning that this duty is already in the hands of a gentleman of peculiar ability "qui nihil tetigit quod non ornavit," and who, we all know, will perform it most satisfactorily on our local anniversary, which will occur June 17, and that therefore no such effort or result would be expected from me, I cheerfully concluded to accept the unmerited honor which the representatives of my fellow-citizens have tendered to me, to lead their thought on the ensuing national jubilee, when we shall assemble, not as a council of Indian braves to boast of the prowess of

our fathers, but as a civilized people to gather from past history lessons of purity for the present, and high resolve and earnest purpose for the future. With sentiments of the greatest respect and esteem,

I remain your obedient servant,

JOHN C. PARK.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Quite a number of old residents, descendants from the men of 1776, were obliged to send letters of declination in response to the invitations forwarded them; among them Mr. William Curtis, Mr. Amasa Collin, Mr. Robert Prentice, Mr. Almarin Trowbridge.

EXERCISES ON THE FOURTH OF JULY.

THE EXERCISES.

It had been decided that the City Hall, Ward Three, was the most appropriate and fitting place for having the exercises commemorative of "The Glorious Fourth."

The history of the building reaches back for over one hundred years, —

> "Somewhere, we know not when :
> 'Twas after Eliot taught the red-faced men, —
> The Indian dwellers on Nonantum Hill,
> Round which the blessed memories linger still."

It represents the religious, the scholastic, and the political interests of our people, having been used in turn as a church schoolhouse, town-house, and now the City Hall.

Thus the patriotic associations of the place were in happy accord with the spirit of the hour, and inspiration was not wanting to enkindle enthusiasm in the interesting centennial anniversary to be celebrated.

The decorations of the hall were simple, yet very effective. The same skill and taste which had prepared Eliot Hall on the 17th of June were here displayed with pleasing effect.

The happy combination of flags, streamers, banners, mottoes, and festoons of the national colors, gave the large audience-room a most agreeable appearance.

Upon the platform were his Honor the Mayor, — Alden Speare, — who presided on the occasion, together with the members of the different departments of the city, the chaplain, the orator and poet of the day, and distinguished citizens.

The exercises were commenced by musical selections of appropriate themes, including Washington's March, and other national airs, which were very finely and acceptably rendered upon the piano by Mr. W. S. Sargent, with the assistance of a cornet accompaniment.

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The centennial anniversary of the day on which the people of the United States declared their right to a separate and equal station among the powers of the earth seems to demand an exceptional observance. The founders of the government, at its birth and in its feebleness, invoked the blessings and the protection of a Divine Providence; and the thirteen colonies and three millions of people have expanded into a nation of strength and numbers commanding the position which then was demanded, and for which fervent prayers were then offered.

It seems fitting, that, on the occurrence of the hundredth anniversary of our existence as a nation, a grateful acknowledgment should be made to Almighty God for the protection and the bounties which he has vouchsafed to our beloved country.

I therefore invite the good people of the United States, on the approaching Fourth day of July, in addition to the

CITY HALL.

usual observances with which they are accustomed to greet the return of the day, further, in such manner and at such time as in their respective localities and religious associations may be most convenient, to mark its recurrence by some public religious and devout thanksgiving to Almighty God for the blessings which have been bestowed upon us as a nation during the century of our existence, and humbly to invoke a continuance of his favor and of his protection.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this twenty-sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, and of the Independence of United States of America, the one hundredth.

U. S. Grant.

By the President:

Hamilton Fish, *Secretary of State.*

After reading of the proclamation of the President, Alderman Gilman, in introducing the Rev. Mr. Samson, said, —

As in most of our city churches, last Sunday, public religious services were held, at which devout thanksgiving and fervent prayer marked the occurrence of this centennial celebration, we now here assemble so far as practicable, in accordance with the President's proclamation, and would offer humble thanks to Almighty God for mercies received, earnest prayer for blessings and favors we hope yet to come, and that in righteousness our people and nation may be exalted.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Thomas S. Samson, of the Baptist Church, Ward One, after which the audience arose, and joined in singing the following hymn : —

"God ever glorious! Sovereign of nations!
Waving the banner of peace o'er our land,
Thine is the victory, thine the salvation:
Strong to deliver, own we thy hand.

Still may thy blessing rest, Father most holy,
Over each mountain, rock, river, and shore!
Sing hallelujah! Shout in hosannas!
God keep our country free evermore!"

The mayor called on EDWARD W. CATE, Esq., a graduate of Newton High School, who read the Declaration of Independence, from the old town records, as entered thereon one hundred years ago by Abraham Fuller, Town Clerk, "by order of the Council."

Miss CORA G. PLIMPTON then sang "The Battle-Cry of Freedom," the audience joining in the chorus : —

"The Union forever! hurrah, boys, hurrah!
Down with the traitor, up with the star,
While we rally round the flag, boys, rally once again,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom."

After the singing, the mayor made the following introductory address : —

FELLOW-CITIZENS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, — We have assembled on this the Fourth of July, 1876, to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, by which we, no longer colonies, were made independent of Great Britain, henceforth and for-

UNDERWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL.

ever the United States of America. This is a day that John Adams, writing to his wife the 5th of July, 1776, declared to be one that "ought to be commemorated as a day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward for evermore." We rejoice that the same patriotic impulse which prompted this declaration still finds a welcome home in the hearts of the citizens of Newton; and that the day was ushered in with bonfires on our hilltops, that the tongue of every bell from every steeple in our city has proclaimed "peace and liberty to the land and the inhabitants thereof;" and still more, that, as these sounds have fallen on our ears, the hearts of our citizens have beaten responsively to the call, as is evidenced in the stars and stripes floating from so many house-tops in the city, and by this crowded audience present to listen to the recital of the deeds and sufferings which have made it our high privilege to celebrate this day with all that it crowds upon us, in the rich memories of the past, and promises of the future.

While it has been not inappropriately said that "Virginia in Patrick Henry furnished the tongue, and in Thomas Jefferson the pen, of the Revolution," Jefferson wrote that "Massachusetts in John Adams furnished the Colossus, in Samuel Adams the Palinurus, of the Revolution."

And we are reminded that this day is the anniversary of

another event, — the death of both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, fifty years ago, just at the half-way milestone between the Declaration of Independence (which was written by the former, and carried through the Continental Congress by the powerful arguments and eloquence of the latter), and its one hundredth anniversary. Jefferson, when told that it was Independence Day, and that he was dying, replied, "As I had wished." Adams, as the sound of the bell, pealing out the glad sound of liberty, struck his already fast-failing senses, asks, "What is it?" His companion replies, "It is Independence Day." His patriotic soul warm even in death with grand emotions of liberty, he exclaimed, "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER!" Thus with the halo of liberty on their brows, they took their departure from their labors here to their fruition in the hereafter.

May these memories, and the memories of the sons of Newton, incite us, on whom devolve the duties of the hour, to that conscientious discharge of all the responsibilities of citizenship which shall bring us upon that higher level where we shall appreciate fully its demands upon us, not only for honesty, but vigilance, in performing our part in the city, commonwealth, and nation, in order that we may ever be a people worthy of such a land, and of the liberty founded by the fortunes, devotion, deprivations, and lives of those of a hundred years ago, — founded so well on the eternal principles of industry, virtue, and piety, that the fabric stands to-day, having effectually resisted all encroachments from foes abroad and rebellion at home.

May it so remain, and may this be indeed the "land of the free" for the liberty-loving and oppressed of all lands! But I will not detain you longer. I now have the pleasure of introducing to you our fellow-citizen, whose patriotic heart has been made warmer by a late visit to the cities along our coast, from Boston to Charleston, — the Hon. John C. Park, the orator of the day.

ORATION.

Mr. Mayor, Gentlemen of the City Government, Ladies and Gentlemen, — The bright sun of this morning has again revealed to our eyes the beautiful world God has given us for a dwelling-place. Its earliest beams gilded the rocky peaks of Katahdin; then Mount Washington caught its splendor; the Green Mountains of Vermont seemed clad in a fresher verdure under its rays; the broad lakes became seas of molten silver; the fertile plains of our Central States teemed under its revivifying influences; the Rocky Mountains, the Sierras, Mount Hood and Mount Shasta, snow-capped and majestic, were next lighted up in their solitary splendors; and at last far-off Alaska, one of the youngest children of our Union, has shaken off the midnight chills at its approach.

For four successive hours, each second has been *a moment of sunrise* to some part of our magnificent territory. From the fisherman on the banks of Newfoundland to the seal-hunter of Alaska, from the coral reefs of the

Tortugas to the Golden Gate of San Francisco, millions of freemen have welcomed its coming; and the roar of cannon, the shouts of human voices, the unfolding of that beautiful flag which overshadows with its protection alike the millionnaire and the freedman, signify to the world, not only a nation's joy and pride, but, far better, the deep-felt gratitude which wells up in every heart to Him who has "caused our lines to fall in pleasant places," and "crowned our lives with his loving kindness and tender mercies."

The event which we have this day assembled to commemorate was not the result of a fiat from some autocrat, nor of any sudden outbreak of a mere popular tumult. The doctrine of evolution is older than this globe. Adequate causes have ever evolved and will ever evolve into resultant effects. In the beautiful language of Scripture, "In the fulness of time it came to pass;" or, as a good old Scotch Presbyterian quaintly expressed it, "The Almighty is never in a hurry."

The seed had been sown in good soil, and had received careful tillage. "Taxation without representation is tyranny," was that seed. It had been whispered at the fireside; it had been muttered in the mart and the workshop; it had been thundered from eloquent lips at those free, outspoken town-meetings, whose nature and effect were so graphically described by your own poet at a late celebration in this city; it had been committed to the blessing of heaven from those New England pulpits which always have been most jealous guardians of the rights of man.

Its sentiment became contagious. Far-off States, not then reached by the magnetic wire, felt the electric spark of patriotism, and responded with words of sympathy and encouragement. South Carolina, through her Gadsden, was among the first; and the committees of correspondence kept the golden chain bright. South Carolina and Massachusetts one hundred years ago! As the poets have exquisitely described young lovers, —

> "Two souls with but a single thought,
> Two hearts that beat as one,"—

So it was with them: two souls with but a single thought, — freedom, justice, independence; two hearts that beat as one, — Union!

On the 4th of July, 1776, the conflicts of Concord and Lexington and the battle of Bunker Hill had passed into history. Boston had been evacuated, and foreign troops had been driven from the soil of Massachusetts, never to desecrate it again. At the South, too, the repulse which the foe had suffered at Fort Moultrie had been effected; an anniversary so admirably remembered there during the past week. Both States had passed through the baptism of blood, and had entered into the holy communion of a patriotic nationality. Speechless forever be the tongue which shall utter a word, and palsied forever the arm which shall do a deed, to destroy that glorious Union!

My friends, why should I speak to a Middlesex audience of the valor of our sires, while we sit within sight of Bunker Hill, and so near Concord and Lexington? or

of the wisdom of those sages, while standing in the birth-place of Roger Sherman, and almost within cannon-range of the homes of Samuel Adams and Elbridge Gerry and John Adams? These are the familiar traditions of our homes and our firesides. On such an occasion as this I should not approach them in the spirit of vain boasting, but reverently. Had I the good fortune to own a choice painting of one of the old masters, I should at intervals take it down, and dust it, and contemplate its beauties; but no renovator should attempt to refresh its coloring, or improve a tint. Any words of mine on such a subject might prove me to be but a sacrilegious renovator.

But pardon me if I do allude to a class not always remembered as they should be on these occasions. I mean the woman of our country. And yet should I attempt to depict what, in those days, was attained by her firm counsels given in the confidential intercourse of home, her words of cheer, her spirit of self-sacrifice and trustful resignation, I should fail. Let me tell you, my friends, the bodily suffering of the battle-field, the wintry bivouac, the prison-pen, are vastly more endurable than the anguish of the waiting heart, which suffers alone in its midnight watches, and dreads, longing for news from its loved ones, and which would break in its earthly prison-house if it were not sustained by that trust in a loving Father's goodness which is always woman's solace.

Fellow-citizens, we stand to-day on one of the mountain ridges of our country's progress. Let us, for a moment, change the language of a familiar hymn, and *survey* the

path already trod, that we may press with vigor on. Or, to borrow another figure, we are, as it were, at the national signal-station. Let us sweep the horizon, gather the meteorological political signs, — see where a cyclone is threatened, and throw out a storm signal; or discern where good influences are coming like gentle showers and refreshing sunshine.

And first let us glance at the great alteration which the century has produced in the assimilation of our people.

The early settlements on these shores were made in almost every instance by bodies of men who had been induced to cross the ocean in search of a new home. Please mark the word "home:" I shall have occasion again to refer to it. The Separatist and the Puritan in New England; the Quaker or Friend in Pennsylvania; the liberal Roman Catholic in Maryland (I say liberal, for the settlement of Lord Baltimore might have shamed some of its sister Colonies in its language of toleration); the devout, church-loving Episcopalians of Virginia and the Carolinas, with their early companions the Huguenots, — all, all were in search of freedom, civil and spiritual; and each and all in their first breathings as communities had incorporated into their charters, or inserted in their early ordinances, provisions, more or less stringent, giving weight and influence to the *popular voice*. This spirit was a chief ingredient in giving birth to our Revolutionary struggle, and brought about the Colonial League and the National Union.

True to this sentiment, as soon as we became a nation

we welcomed to our shores and our privileges the oppressed and downtrodden of the whole world; and during the century these have been flocking in upon us, — peopling our fertile plains, improving our immense water-power, and developing our national industries and mineral riches. How needed, how welcome! But they have come in large communities, bringing with them not only their native languages, but their home customs, prejudices, feuds, manners, and traditions. I think I am not rash in asserting that there are vast communities now with us, exercising all the rights of citizens to control and mould the destinies of this nation, to whom the names and deeds and virtues of Hancock and Adams, Jay and Hamilton, Jefferson and Morris, cause as little emotion or reverence as the names of Leonidas or Seneca do to us. The assimilation of our people is fast fading out, and new motives of national political unity must be sought out. The bubble may increase in the gorgeousness of its colors as it increases in size, but it is fast losing its cohesiveness.

In this connection a portentous cloud in the West will ere long thrust itself upon our attention, and demand most wise, judicious, and honorable policy. I refer to the Chinese question. It stands briefly thus: —

China contains, it is estimated, four hundred millions of inhabitants, crowded compactly together, and struggling for a daily livelihood, — the earnings of a day-laborer being scarcely ten cents a day. The United States have pushed their cities and industries to the Pacific coast, and they now stand face to face with the vast empires of Asia.

Mr. Burlingame, as minister from the Chinese Government, effected a treaty with our Government, by which, in consideration of certain privileges of trade granted to our merchants, the Chinese have free ingress and egress to and from our shores. Six Chinese companies are established in San Francisco, and hold a contract with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, by which Chinamen are brought to these shores for forty-five dollars, passage and sustenance. To prevent the coolie-trade as it was formerly conducted (and which was but a modified form of the slave-trade), our Government passed a law that no Chinaman should be brought here until he had filed a certificate with our consul at Hong Kong, that he came of his own free will. The companies receive him here, and have a full oversight over him while he stays; and the Chinaman is obliged to repay to the company, from his earnings, a hundred dollars for the forty-five dollars advanced. The agreement is that they are to be returned to China in three years; but the steamships will not take them until they exhibit a certificate from the companies that the one hundred dollars has been paid to them.

It is easy to see that China could well spare ten millions a year, and not feel a very perceptible gap in a population of four hundred millions. The capitalists of California (and there are men of enormous wealth there) have seen their opportunity. True it is that the Mongolian race cannot effect in hard labor one-half of the work which can be done by an able-bodied Caucasian; but he excels in dexterity, docility, imitativeness, and persevering industry.

It follows that factories of all kinds can be established, and are being established, in California, based upon the employment of this cheap labor, which can successfully compete with our Eastern factories, even adding the cost of transcontinental transportation.

There are now in California two hundred thousand Chinese. They have already monopolized certain kinds of work, and are so rapidly driving out competition in others, that their competitors are becoming seriously alarmed.

There is no fear, as things now are, that they will disturb us politically. They cannot become citizens and voters. Our naturalization laws, if they interposed no other objection, require five years' continued residence, during two of which they shall have filed a declaration of intention; and they must give evidence of good character. As the contract is that they shall be taken back in three years, that alone would prevent naturalization.

Neither are they a desirable population even temporarily. They are habitually inveterate gamblers. They are, almost to a man, opium-smokers. They adhere pertinaciously to the religious faith of their fathers, and bring with them their joss-house worship and ceremonies. But I spoke of *homes*. The emigrant who comes to us from Europe brings with him his wife and children, and means to make this his home. His children are to be educated here, and can be reached by our educational training. The Chinese brings no wife, no child: he has no thought of a home here.

To the two hundred thousand males in California, there

are about five thousand females, all of the most degraded, dissolute, and licentious character. Of course, the whole idea which rises up in the mind of a New-Englander at the word "home," with all its hallowed and elevating influences, is entirely unknown to the Chinaman.

Granting, then, that we ought still to adhere to the custom and policy of our fathers, and throw wide our soil to the advent of the oppressed, the suffering, and the industrious who come with the intent to make this their permanent home, do we abandon that position, when we hesitate to admit those who come with no such intent, and who utterly refuse to assimilate with us in habits, customs, language, religion, words, domestic institutions, or political life?

Still further: is it desirable to have among us a population, which may soon be counted by its millions, who will be thus with us, but not of us? But, as we have just said to England, a treaty means something among nations, as a contract does among honest men. As I have already stated, this is a problem of grave and serious importance, and one which we cannot afford long to ignore.

But I am admonished of the rapid lapse of time. There are other rocks ahead, of which I would speak, and suggest a hint of how we may avoid them. May I briefly allude to one or two?

Our country is suffering — is it not? — under the curse of presidential patronage. When our government was formed, and our territory was comparatively small, it was thought wise and judicious to intrust to the Chief Magis-

trate the appointment of the officers necessary to carry on the business of the national government. As our limits have extended, with an increase of our population and business, together with our appliances for the collection and disbursement of the revenue, and the proper supervision of our commercial operations and relations, these officers have become a host. So long as the course which was pursued by John Quincy Adams, while he was president, had been preserved (who removed no man from office on the score of his party proclivities), this course might still have been practised with safety. But now the fearful pack of hungry office-seekers, the influence which they wield, and the base intrigues to which they pander, are fearful. Its effect has been disgusting to honest men; so that they have been led to neglect their bounden duty as voters, and to leave the management of affairs in the hands of these vampires. It has been suggested, and I venture most deferentially to add that the suggestion meets my hearty approval, that a partial remedy might be found in a constitutional amendment, by which the President would be elected for a term of six years, ineligible ever after. This, aided by a strong and wisely planned civil service bill, might result most beneficially.

One word on another crying evil of the hour, — state and municipal, and, I might add, ecclesiastical indebtedness. It is cheering to see that the people are becoming sensitive on this point. That posterity should pay some portion of the expense of certain necessary permanent public improvements, such as pure water, drainage, and

the like, I admit. A review of the rise and progress of this system of public indebtedness will show that it was from such beginnings that this mischief has sprung. But it is to be borne in mind, that posterity will have its own peculiar pressing needs too; and, if it is to be weighed down with the whole of our accumulated debts and interest, we must be very thankful that we are not our own grandchildren; certain it is, that they will hardly rise up and call us blessed.

Fellow-citizens, your orator for this day, who for half a century has exercised his right of suffrage in this State, always conscientiously, if not always wisely, had purposed to urge you to rouse yourselves from your lethargy, and shake off the apathy into which you seem to have fallen in relation to your political duties and obligations. Every privilege which we enjoy in this world carries with it a corresponding obligation to use it wisely; and in this matter of determining who shall rule, and how they shall rule, rest assured that the maxim applies, that from him who hath not improved that which has been given to him shall be taken even that which he hath.

But the events which have transpired during the last few weeks have given me a renewed confidence in the people of these United States.

On the one hand, the gentlemen at Washington, who seemed to have forgotten that they were sent there to legislate for the interests of the country, its advancement and prosperity, and not to select a presidential candidate, have received a signal rebuke. On the other hand, those

who had prospered in financial rings and nefarious cabals have been taught that their power and influence are incompetent to destroy the popular favor of one who has independently and firmly put his heel on their iniquities. These signs bid us hope that we shall soon breathe a more healthy atmosphere. Believe me, fellow-citizens, if every man, of every shade of opinion, will be true to his duty as an American citizen, truth, honor, and good government will be maintained.

Spirits of the heroes, the patriots, the sages, of the Revolutionary days, look down upon us while we render an account of the trust which you reposed in us, the stewardship which you committed into our hands. The strip along the Atlantic now extends from ocean to ocean, filled with the homes of a prosperous, happy, free people. The Constitution framed by your wisdom and forethought we hold still unimpaired. It has shown to the world that you had embodied in it powers to maintain itself through a storm and peril of gigantic proportions. We have amazed the statesmen of the old forms of government by our capacity to preserve law and order by an army of mere citizen soldiery, and have still more astonished them by the spectacle of vast armies, at the close of a long contest, instantly and quietly retiring to their avocations as citizens. We have proved, and are still proving, that our national pecuniary obligations shall all, *all*, be fully and honorably met and discharged. The inventive genius of our age has done more for the prosperity, comfort, and happiness of the human race, than had been accomplished in many pre-

ceding centuries. Our flag commands respect wherever it floats; and yet we have exhibited the truly pacific spectacle of submitting questions to arbitration which in former ages would have plunged the contending nations into the horrors of bloody war.

In the midst of our direst necessities, and while reeling like sunstruck men under the effects of our civil contest, we warned one of the most powerful monarchs of Europe that we would not permit foreign troops to control the destinies of any country on this continent; and the soldiers of France vanished from the Mexican borders.

Religious toleration, philanthropy, institutions of charity and of learning and science, libraries, and tribunals of justice, all the instrumentalities which make men better and happier, live at every man's door; and, last and not least, thanks be to God! throughout the length and breadth of our land there is no such being breathes as a slave.

My friends, we need not be ashamed of our record. There may be upon some of its pages spots and stains: so there are on the sun. But the most of the leaves are emblazoned with the record of duties well done in God's service.

Of those who are now present, not one will see the sun of another centennial.

Young men! We have carried the ark of the covenant of human progress, which our fathers (a people chosen of God, as were the Jews of old) had given to our keeping, steadily onward. We bore it through the Red Sea, — red with the blood of our bravest and our best. Into your

hands we now commit it. See to it that you manfully sustain the burden; for the eye of the Most High is upon you.

At the close of the oration, Miss JENNIE M. PATRICK sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," the audience rising, and joining in the chorus: —

"Glory, glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on."

The following poem was then read by J. L. ORDWAY, Esq., of Newton.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

1776–1876.

THY voice, O Liberty! this day is heard
In every breeze that sweeps o'er land or sea:
It murmurs with the rill, it sings with blithesome bird
In notes of glad and glorious harmony;
It speaks from shore to shore
In ocean's solemn and unceasing roar;
And now it loudly calls
In the deep monotone of waterfalls.
Thy presence everywhere around
Makes each familiar spot seem holy ground;
And scenes and tones scarce viewed and heard before
Now thrill and move us with unwonted power.

Thou comest with the glow of summer-time,
The rich luxuriance of fragrant flowers,
When the rejoicing year is in its prime,
To bless this festal day of ours

Upon its annual round;
But ne'er as now did benisons abound;
Ne'er was thy gracious presence felt so near;
And never knew we that thou wast so dear.

And now upon the threshold of the century
That separates the years which have gone by
From the unfathomable mystery
That veils the future from each mortal eye,
We stand, and, looking back
Along the yearly milestones of the track,
Survey the scenes of early strife
In which the nation had its life,
And ponder long and well
On what that lingering gaze may tell,
And learn what this the fourth day of July,
And this a hundredth anniversary,
May teach above all other days,
Save those devoted to the Maker's praise,
And save that festal day that comes with winter's cold.
But the heart warms as we that day remember;
And, though the north wind sweep through leafless wold,
We gladly hail the chill and drear December;
For then was born the mighty Conqueror,
Whose bloodless victories shall never cease;
Who sent a sword to wage perpetual war,
And yet is evermore the Prince of peace.
For that which is the day of days,
Let men their glad rejoicings raise
While strength and breath shall last to utter praise.

The memories of old, the thoughts that stir
All hearts to-day, need no interpreter.

We know full well the early history
Of that resistance against tyranny;
We know where the first blow was struck, and when
Words moulded into deeds again
Strewed all the ground with slain;
When firm resolve, and courage strong,
Which to those manly souls belong,
Who dare uphold the right, resist the wrong,
Upheld, resisted, not in vain.

Here, close at hand, within the sight,
Along the plain, upon the distant hill,
Was waged the unremitting fight;
And anxious hearts watched, waited still, —
Watched, waited, day and night:
From hence, upon that first eventful day,
Marched ready minute-men to join the fray.
And he whose ardent, patriotic zeal,
Brave deeds, as well as glowing words, reveal,
Went forth to earn ennobling fame,
And leave an honored and enduring name,
Receiving, for his work of duty done,
The proud reward of praise from Washington.
And yonder monument may tell
How the fierce conflict raged beneath,
How there the gallant Warren fell,
And gave his latest breath
To freedom's sacred cause he loved so well.

In the deep shade of yonder spreading elm,
'Mid clouds of danger, threatening to o'erwhelm,
The great commander, wise and brave, unsheathed his sword,
Gravely and reverently, as for the Lord.

Ere long the lofty heights above the bay
Looked frowning down
On the beleaguered town
And quickly fled the frightened foe away,
With every white sail spread to catch the favoring breeze,
Like flocks of seabirds unto southern seas.

Then ran the happy people up and down,
Through streets and lanes of the rejoicing town;
And every heart was all astir
To greet and welcome the deliverer.
Each breath seemed drawn in purer air;
Each springing footstep seemed more light to be;
Each face was bright with smiles; and everywhere
The joyous words were spoken, "We are free."

And now upon a July day the sun arose,
And slowly, slowly, climbed the shining skies;
It sank into the west, day found its close,
And vanished from all eyes.
The earth was fair; the heavens were bright;
The grass was fresh and green beneath the feet;
The birds were singing; flowers with fragrance sweet
Filled, as to-day, the senses with delight;
And the majestic Delaware unto the sea,
As now, rolled onward peacefully;
And nought mysterious on earth, in sky,
Could be discerned by mortal eye.
But on that day a deed was done,
Simple, and yet sublime,
That was to bless all lands beneath the sun,
And be remembered through all time,—
A paper signed, and that was all,
In Philadelphia's ancient hall,

And truths and principles immortal
Went forth from out that portal.

What proud assurance! and what courage great,
That no dark danger could intimidate!
What patriotic zeal! and what prescient eye,
That glories of the future could descry
Through frowning clouds that swept across the sky!
A band of fifty-six from thirteen colonies
There haughty England's power and pride
Undauntedly defied, —
The mighty power, the presumptuous pride,
Of England, mistress of the seas.

Four years before, in that most gloomy hour,
Struggling in vain against o'erwhelming power,
Unhappy Poland, brave, heroic land,
Was blotted out, o'erthrown by tyrant hand;
And many gallant sons were dragged in chains
To torture of Siberia's icy plains;
And yet the mover of this deed of infamy,
This foul partition of that little state,
Is known in history as "Frederick the GREAT!"
Kingcraft had then full, undisputed sway;
"I am the State," it was their wont to say.
They ruled by "grace of God," and their own right;
But "grace of God" was seldom kept in sight.
Strange, wonderful, it seemed, that one would dare
To send a protest through the servile air,
When right, nor watch, nor ward was keeping,
And Liberty was dead — or sleeping.

At Runnymede, six centuries before,
A tyrant's hand was forced to yield its power,

And grant that "Magna Charta" evermore to be
The bulwark strong of English liberty.
Another tyrant's head, we know full well,
Before the axe of headsman fell,
When rose the people in their might
To save each precious vested right.
But ne'er was made a nobler declaration
In any age, by any nation,
And grander words were spoke or written never,
To bless, uplift, and sanctify forever,
Save when on hills and shores of Palestine
Were said those utterances divine.

In such a cause how could there failure be?
All hearts were cheered, and hopes were high.
But now came dark adversity;
For yet came British ships across the sea,
And landed troops by thousands on our shore,
And many that had hoped could hope no more.
Defeat, disaster, and discouragement
Followed the army wheresoe'er it went:
Ill fed, half clothed, shoeless, undisciplined,
What better prospect could they hope to find?
Defeat, retreat. Ah! well may we
Who read the painful history
Regard with wonder and emotion
The patience and the strong devotion,
The dauntless valor, and the fortitude,
That, through long years, withstood
The desolating battle-storm, and, undismayed,
Darkness and danger trustingly surveyed.
Oh, many a true, courageous soul was there,
Who, ever hopeful, thought not of despair,

Believing, that, whatever might betide,
'Twas well to suffer, well to patiently endure,
Was not the "Lord upon our side"?
Ere long would come the triumph sure.

Seven years of unrelenting war went by,
And for each year barely one victory;
And still the faith that led them on
Imparted courage strong and high,
Though hope, at times, seemed well-nigh gone.
And Yorktown's glorious day at last
Brought compensation for the weary past, —
Deliverance from all their woes,
And the long war to a triumphant close.

In what more fitting place of all the land
Could they victorious stand
Than in Virginia, grand old State? —
Virginia, mother of the wise and great,
Whose ancient church-walls, echoing, rung
With glowing eloquence of Henry's tongue,
Who, while a tyrant's minions held their breath,
Said, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"
There still Mount Vernon stands, for every age
A sacred place of pilgrimage,
The home and the last resting-place of Washington,
Whose fame belongs not to one State alone,
The nation's most illustrious son,
Who did not doff the panoply of war
To grace his brow with laurel wreath of conqueror:
Nor, when his work was done, the sword lay down
To mount a throne, and wear a kingly crown,
But left a name no title could adorn.
No laurel wreaths for victories won,

No crown that line of hundred kings have worn,
Could add one honor to the peerless Washington.
That ancient State had still another son,
Whose patriotic task so well, so grandly done,
Thrills every heart with each familiar word:
His "pen" was truly "mightier than the sword."
Virginia, Massachusetts, sister States! Alike
In glorious deeds, alike in gallant men!
One had for freedom the first blow to strike;
The other had the last, and then,
From northern to far southern shore,
The reign of tyranny was o'er.

May each succeeding fourth day of July
Bring greater blessings as the years go by!
May this, and every land beneath the sun,
Rejoice in victories peace has won!
And when another century shall have gone,
And others, where we stand, look back upon
The incidents of every fleeting year,
What thoughts shall rise, what visions shall appear?
Ah! none can tell
Save Him "who ruleth all things well."
But this we know, of this we may be sure,
That truth and justice ever will endure;
That principles immortal and sublime
Are bounded not by space nor time.
These through all changes shall survive,
Though men shall cease to live.

In this utilitarian age,
In these progressive days so fast,
Present and future all our thoughts engage.
We oft forget our obligations to the past.

We cannot hold too tenderly
The memories of those devoted men,
Who by strong arm, or word, or pen,
Brought us in safety through the sea
Of danger and perplexity.
Nor can we greet too gladly the return
Of any day on which great deeds were done,
But let our hearts within us burn,
And eyes with grateful tears o'errun.
We cannot gaze too reverently
On every spot and every landmark where
Brave men have fallen in the cause of liberty,
And where bold words have thrilled the air.

Save us, O Liberty! save us, departed shades
Of men whose eloquence has rung
Through consecrated rafters o'er our heads,
Who Freedom's banner to the free winds flung, —
Save us from desecrating hand
That would destroy these sacred places of the land!
Let them forever stand.
And people of another age,
Hither from every clime shall come,
To make a reverent pilgrimage
To Freedom's chosen home.
Then shall each heart be thrilled and fired
With lofty aims and purpose high,
Ready with noblest zeal inspired,
To act, to suffer, or to die.

And now, while every eye with joy is beaming
In every hamlet of the country wide,
Above, o'er all, the glorious flag is streaming,
The treasured emblem of our hope and pride.

How has it floated through the battle smoke,
And brightly gleamed before the watchful sight,
And like a living presence spoke
To guide, to lead the uncertain fight!
Though riddled, torn by shot and shell,
Still through the storm has swept that standard proud, —
Hope of the living, and for those who fell
A soldier's shroud.
O flag of freedom! may thy stars shine on,
Each by itself, and all as one,
With neither spot nor stain to mar
The blended glory beaming from afar;
No star to wander from that union bright;
No dark eclipse to dim the light.
Still may thy red be like the sunlight glow,
To kindle warmth in coldest breast;
Thy white be pure as winter's snow,
And as the fleecy clouds that come and go,
Like messengers of peace and rest,
From unknown regions of the blest;
Thine azure be like that cerulean hue
Which marks the deep profound of yonder skies,
Suggesting, that, beyond those depths of blue,
Some higher good, some greater blessing, lies.
Thine be it evermore to wave
Where none can call another "slave,"
And all the joyous air and tender sky
Are fragrant with the breath of liberty.

But hark! now from afar
Come faintly quivering through the startled air
Tones of a solitary bell;
And with each trembling swell
This is the story it doth tell:

"One hundred years ago I rung
With no uncertain tongue,
But loud and clear,
That all, both far and near,
The thrilling words might hear:
'I liberty proclaim throughout the land,'
And now in my old age again I stand
With weak and faltering voice to speak,
And the long silence break,
'Once more, throughout the land I liberty proclaim,'
To all, of every color, race, and name.
From east to west, from south to north,
Let the glad sound go forth,
Till all the world shall be
In peace, united, free."

THE SECOND PART

Of the programme was the representation of historical scenes and characters by school-children and others, under the direction of Mr. GEORGE S. TROWBRIDGE, assisted by Miss MATTIE C. HOWE, with Mr WILLIAM S. SARGENT as pianist. This was one of the most pleasing features of the occasion to the young people present. For the beauty and effect of the scenes, and the admirable manner in which each character was presented, Mr. Trowbridge and Miss Howe received great praise, as well as for the genius displayed in getting up the drama. The plot was as follows: —

1776.

[*Enter* KING GEORGE THE THIRD *and* COURTIERS. *The* KING *is conducted to his throne. Address of the* KING.]

MY lords and gentlemen, a most daring spirit of resistance and disobedience of the law still prevails in the Massachusetts provinces; an-

MASON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Do noble things, not dream them,
all the life one grand, sweet song.

their conduct is countenanced and continued by other colonies. But measures have been taken for the restitution of peace and good order; and every attempt to impair the supreme authority of the legislature over all the dominions of the crown will be firmly resisted.

The American colonists, instigated by artful traitors, have commenced open rebellion, and manifestly aim at the establishment of an independent empire; and it is the part of wisdom and (in its consequences) of clemency to put a speedy end to their commotion by the most decisive efforts.

[*Enter* Representatives of the Thirteen Original States. *Reply to the* King *by One of Their Number.*]

Your Majesty, — Permit us to be free, and we shall ever esteem a union with you to be our greatest glory and our greatest happiness. We shall ever be ready to contribute all in our power to the welfare of the whole empire. We shall consider your enemies as our enemies, and your interests as our own.

But if you are determined that your ministers shall wantonly sport with the rights of mankind; if neither the voice of justice, the dictates of the law, the principles of the Constitution, nor the suggestions of humanity, can restrain your hands from shedding human blood in such a cause, — then we wash our hands of the consequences.

[*Enter* Liberty. *Song of Welcome, sung by* Miss Cora G. Plimpton, *Audience joining in the Chorus.*]

Chorus. — When borne by the red, white, and blue,
When borne by the red, white, and blue:
Thy banners make tyranny tremble
When borne by the red, white, and blue.

Address of Liberty to the King.

Because thou hast scorned the poor, and oppressed the weak;
Because thou hast said, "No voice for them can speak;"

Because thou hast bound the chains on freeborn hands,
And stretched a tyrant's sceptre o'er my land;
Because thou hast shown the world how weak a thing
A man may be, and keep the name of king, —
A message that thou well mayst heed, I bear:
O power-blinded monarch! turn and hear.
Look in the face of Liberty, O King!
If thou canst meet the gaze of honest eyes,
And heed the solemn word I bring
From Him who rules above the skies.
Think'st thou to make but fettered slaves
Of men who once have breathed in freemen's air?
God's hand o'er them is stretched to save:
He gives them strength to do and dare.
Thou layest the curse of tribute on their land;
Thou scornest their cry for justice and for right:
The thunderbolts thou hurlest from thy hand
Shall backward turn, and crush thee with their might.
Are there no fallen tyrants in the past
To teach thee what must be a tyrant's fate?
God's awful voice has spoken the word at last,
The company who publish it is great.
They are but few; but, ere the strife is done,
Thou well shalt read in words of burning light:
"In freedom's cause, a thousand yield to one;
Ten thousand hirelings two can put to flight."
Because thou hast turned from counsel true and wise,
Because thou hast answered their plea with haughty lies;
Because thou hast said, "My power has gained this land;"
Because thou hast trusted alone in thy own right hand, —
God wrests from thy grasp what thou art not able to hold,
And gives it to men who will keep it through ages untold,
A nation of freemen, a home for the poor and oppressed,
Where under the broad starry banner
Earth's weary may rest.

Address of the Thirteen States to Liberty.

O Liberty! forsake us not when low the storm-clouds hang o'er our defenceless land.
We tread the path where thou didst bid us go;
Grant us thine aid, stretch forth thy guiding hand:
God called us from old homes to this new West;
His mercy guided us across the sea;
With thy fair presence he our lives has blest,
We fail alone: help us, O Liberty!

O Liberty! we gladly yield to thee
All we have gained of wealth and careless ease;
Better in freedom breast the stormiest sea
Than spread our sail to slavery's softest breeze.
God's hand was strong to aid in perils past;
May his great presence still around us be!

Liberty to the Thirteen States.

Rise, children of Columbia! fear no more
To cast the fetters of your youth away;
I bear a promise from the King of kings:
"After the night shall come the perfect day."
My sword shall flash in every battle's front,
My voice inspire brave men in tent and field,
For your deliverer, one so true I give,
That where he leads the foe must fly, or yield.

[*Enter* George Washington *and* Soldiers. Liberty *points to* Washington, *saying*, "*He is your deliverer.*" *The Thirteen States clothe him as with Armor.*]

LIBERTY TO WASHINTON.

O Washington! for whom through years of gloom,
The world has waited, come and claim thine own, —
A heritage of toil and care and pain,
To raise a nation prostrate 'neath a throne,
To face a mighty foe with armies few,
To bear with wrongs, to hope where doubts increase,
And at last to lead through toil and loss
A ransomed people to victorious peace.
Oh, braver than the storied knights of old,
Receive thine armor from this waiting band:
The prayers that rise for thee from patriot hearts
Shall be thy shield, and guide thy willing hand.

[WASHINGTON *kneels.* COLUMBIA *presents Sword.*]

Rise, leader of a people crowned with right,
Wise heart in counsel only feared by foes,
Gird on the arms that liberty has blessed,
And in thy sword attain her calm repose.

[GEORGE THE THIRD'S TROOPS *enter, and reach their Flag, and* COLUMBIA *commands them to halt, and addresses them.*]

Thus far, defenders of a failing cause;
Invaders cannot pass beyond this bound:
My mandate is above e'en kingly laws:
Where patriots tread is consecrated ground.
Behold the man whom God has called to guide
Through myriad foes to Freedom's promised land.
Cast down your arms, humble your haughty pride, and fly before his Heaven-directed hand.

[*The* BRITISH *surrender their arms, and retire. The representatives of the* THIRTEEN STATES *escort* GEORGE WASHINGTON *to the President's Chair. The American Flag was raised, and the "Star Spangled Banner" sung by* MISS JENNIE M. PATRICK.]

1876.

[QUEEN VICTORIA *on the Throne of England. God save the Queen. Response by the Audience.*]

God save our gracious Queen!
Long live our noble Queen!
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen!

[*Enter* REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRTY-NINE STATES, *escorting* GEN. GRANT *and* STAFF. *Response by the Audience.*]

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

[*The English and American Flags united. Audience rising and singing.*]

Two flags as one unfurled
Shall bear around the world
Justice and right.
O God! we own thy hand:
Bless our united lands:
And may we ever stand
Strong in thy might.

[*Solo by* MISS PATRICK, "*Long live America.*"]

The Doxology was then sung, —

Be thou, O God, exalted high,
And as thy glory fills the sky,
So let it be on earth displayed,
Till thou art here as there obeyed.

The proceedings were then closed with the benediction, pronounced by Rev. W. M. Lisle.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

On the evening of the 16th of June, the patriotism of our citizens found expression by the firing of cannon and bonfires; and early the next morning flags were thrown to the breeze from many points all over the city; and several public and private buildings were tastefully decorated, including the City Hall (Ward Three), Eliot Church (Ward Seven), First Methodist Church (Ward One), First Church, Newton Centre (Ward Six), and the Channing Church (Ward One). The house of John L. Roberts of Newtonville was more elaborately decorated than any other in town, and erected in the front-yard was a tablet with this inscription: —

"The Old Hull House, erected in 1776 by Judge Fuller, on the site of the present residence of Gov. Claflin. Front addition built by Gen. Hull in 1814. Removed to its present position in September, 1846, by John L. Roberts, present owner."

By the side of this stood an arm-chair of antique pattern, bearing this information: —

"This chair, originally owned by the Hull family, is known to be a hundred and fifty years old."

The following tablets were also posted as indicated below : —

Near Nonantum House, Ward One, —

1731.
Angiers Corner.

Old Cemetery, Centre Street, —

1660.
First Church Built
in Newton,
On This Spot.
Pastor, John Eliot, Jr.

Old Burying Ground, —

Comd. Hull &
His Servant, The Last
Slave
Owned in Newton
Are Buried Here.

Old Cemetery, —

First
Burying Ground.

Grave of
John Eliot, Jr.
& Wife
In These Grounds.

Nonantum Hill, —

Near This Spot
Stood Eliot's First
Church For The
Indians. Erected 1646.

Soldiers' Monument in the New Cemetery, —

NEWTON FURNISHED
430
MEN FOR THE
WAR OF
THE REVOLUTION.

Among the graves in the Old Burying Ground designated by the 17th of June Committee in connection with Gen. Hull, is that of his body-servant "Old Tillow," who was the last slave held in Newton. He lies close to his old master.

City Hall, Ward Three, —

The Original Building for a Church, erected 1764.
Town and School House 1848,
City Hall 1874.

Tablet at the First Church, Newton Centre, Ward Six, —

1776 1660 1876

THE FIRST CHURCH.

Congregational Trinitarian, Rev. John Eliot, Jr., First Pastor.

1st	Meeting-house built in	. . . . .	1660
2d	"	"	1698
3d	"	"	1721
4th	"	"	1805
5th	"	"	1847
Enlarged in	. . . . .		1854
Enlarged as at present in	. . . . .		1869

Rev. D. L. Furber, Pastor.

Rev. Mr. Merriam was pastor of the First Church during the Revolutionary War, Dr. Homer coming at the close. A grand-daughter of Mr. Merriam, the widow Preston, still lives on Nonantum Hill.

The following is a list of the thirteen descendants of the original families of Newton, who sang at the celebration on the 17th of June: —

Mrs. J. S. Potter, Mrs. J. B. Goodrich, Miss Mary Woodward, Mrs. E. P. Wright, Miss Lucretia Fuller, Miss Clarissa S. Hyde, Mr. Francis Murdock, Mr. George S. Trowbridge, Mr. J. E. Trowbridge, Mr. W. O. Trowbridge, Miss Cornelia W. Jackson, Miss Louisa Smallwood, Miss Charlotte W. Hyde. The first four are great-great-grandchildren of Capt. John Woodward, the moderator of the town-meeting, June 17, 1776.

There were also present as a chorus choir thirty-eight pupils of the Newton High School, representing the thirty-eight States of the Republic, and all under the lead of Mr. George S. Trowbridge.

Roger Sherman, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was born in Newton, near the Skinner place, Ward Seven.

During the past one hundred years, Newton has furnished two occupants of the gubernatorial chair, — Hon. William Claflin of Ward Two, Newtonville, and the present incumbent, Hon. Alexander H. Rice of Boston. Two citizens of Newton have also occupied seats in the national house of representatives, — Hon. William Jackson and Hon. J. Wiley Edmands.

The "Claflin Guard" won much praise from our citizens for their fine appearance and military bearing at the Centennial celebration on the evening of June 17th. Their dress of gray coats, white pants, and cross-belts, was very neat and tasteful; and their evolutions, &c., reflected much credit on them in a military point of view. Military men who were present say, "The steadiness of the Guard when on the platform was excellent. Regulars could not have done better."

A very pleasing incident of the meeting at Eliot Hall was the public recognition, by His Excellency Governor Rice of Massachusetts, of his great indebtedness to Mr. Seth Davis for the valuable instruction he received in his academy at West Newton, in the days of his youth. Mr. Davis, who occupied an honored seat upon the platform, was affected

to (shall we not say?) happy tears by the complimentary allusions of his Excellency, who spoke with much feeling of those pleasant days of his boyhood. Mr. Davis, by the way, in his astronomical teachings, was decidedly ahead of his times.

After a silence of one hundred years, the speech of the Moderator of Newton's Independence Town Meeting, Capt. Woodward, has been given to the public through Rev. Mr. Tarbox, the poet of our Centennial. Mr. Tarbox probably "interviewed" the old gentleman.

With the other historical relics exhibited on the evening of the 17th was an ancient picture, the property of Mr. Chas. E. Billings, representing an old Liberty Tree, from which is suspended Andrew Oliver, the stamp distributer.

The Stamp Act is represented by the monster Pym, and under him is a suspected patriot.

Boston holds out the charter; and little Rhode Island comes next. Then comes New York, followed by Virginia, represented as a female intrusted with the Liberty Cap; and the other colonies, marked U, are supporting her.

Over the heads of the patriots is a figure of Minerva, the Goddess of Wisdom, defending them from the aspersions of the enemies of Liberty.

This engraving was made at the time of, or very soon after, the solemn dedication of the tree to liberty; and we find upon the tree a card bearing the following inscription: "Liberty Tree, Aug. 14, 1765."

The crayon portrait of Col. Joseph Ward was executed by Miss E. Adams of Boston, from a miniature painted by Dunkelly in 1792.

NEWTON'S PROGRESS DURING THE PAST CENTURY.

[From the Newton Journal, June 17, 1875.]

One hundred years ago, there was but one meeting-house in the town, the First Church, which was then over a century old. The West Newton Congregational Church, however, was incorporated as a separate parish in 1778; and a church was organized in 1781. The Baptists first gathered a church at Newton Centre, in 1780. The Episcopal form of service was first used at the Lower Falls in 1811. The Methodists opened a church at the Upper Falls in 1822. A Universalist Society was commenced at the Upper Falls in 1841. The first Unitarian Society was established at West Newton in 1848.

There are, at the present time, twenty-nine churches and religious societies in Newton, spreading out from one single society, and of every variety of religious belief, — Orthodox Congregationalist, Unitarians, Baptists, Swedenborgians, Roman Catholics, Universalists, Methodists, &c. One hundred years ago the affairs of the only church then existing were managed in open town-meeting by the freemen of the place, who called the minister, and did all things pertaining to the management of church matters. In those days the people were well supplied with religious instruction, as it is stated that an hour-glass was in the seat with the deacons; and, if the deacons did not turn it at least once during the sermon, the minister was not considered to have done his duty.

One hundred years ago a Sunday school was an unknown institution in Newton. At the present time schools of this character include more than three thousand of the children of Newton.

In educational matters how great the change! One hundred and seventy-seven years ago the town voted to build a schoolhouse sixteen feet by fourteen; and John Staples was hired to keep school four days in the week, at a compensation of two shillings per day. In 1700 two schoolhouses were built; but they were only of sixteen feet square besides chimney room. In those days the parents were obliged to pay threepence per week for those learning to read, and fourpence for those learning to write and cipher. The first school committee was elected in 1706; and the first female teacher was employed in 1766.

From these small beginnings has grown up the present extended school system of Newton, — with its large and convenient school-buildings, costing, in the aggregate, hundreds of thousands of dollars, its excellent high school, its corps of upwards of seventy teachers, and its three thousand scholars, — furnishing an educational exhibit this centennial year for the great National Exposition, which has received complimentary notices from the press of different sections of the country.

The business advance of Newton has not been so marked during the past one hundred years as in some other parts of Middlesex County. Through the influence of the establishment of two lines of railroads, running from Boston through its limits westward, it has rather become a place of residence for business-men of Boston, its population increasing very rapidly during the past thirty years. One hundred years ago the population did not exceed thirteen hundred: now it is between sixteen and seventeen thousand.

In some parts of Newton having water-power facilities, such as Newton Upper and Lower Falls, considerable manufacturing business has been created during the past one hundred years; at the Upper Falls, iron-works, cotton-mills, and the construction of cotton-machinery, under the lead of the Newton Iron Company, the late Otis Pettee, and others. Previous to 1800 the water-power was utilized at the Upper Falls to carry snuff, grist, and saw mills, only about six families residing in that part of the town. The first cotton-factory was erected about 1814, and in 1809 a factory for the manufacture of cut nails.

At the Lower Falls, as long ago as 1704, Mr. Jonathan Willard established the first iron-works. The first paper-mill was built in 1790, by Mr. John Ware; and during the half-century that followed, under the management of the Curtises, the Crehores, the Rices, the business was greatly extended, supplying no small portion of the paper used in book and newspaper establishments. Formerly the work was mostly done by hand, and was slow and laborious. By the invention of the Foudrinier machine in England, the capacity to manufacture was greatly enhanced.

The first machine of the kind ever worked in this country was placed in a mill at the Lower Falls.

At the Lower Falls, also, there have been silk-factories; and there are now cloth and hosiery mills, with shops for the manufacture of machinery, and other industries.

The dam at Bemis's Factory, North Village, was erected in 1760; and at the same time a paper-mill was put up on the north side of the river. Since that time cotton-factories and hosiery mills have been established in that locality.

At Silver Lake, in the northerly part of the town, extensive manufacturing operations have been carried on during the past ten or twelve years.

But we should not conclude this article upon some points of progress made in Newton during the past one hundred years, without alluding to the establishment within her borders of the Baptist Theological Institution, at Newton Centre, whose influence has been world-wide, sending forth, as it has, hundreds of trained young men to bear the "good tidings" of a risen Saviour to the remotest extremities of the earth.

HOW THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WAS RECEIVED IN BOSTON ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THE number for July 22, of "Edes's Boston Gazette" for the year 1776, contains an account of the official announcement, in Boston, of the Declaration of Independence on the previous Thursday. The proceedings took place at the State House, located at the head of State, or what was then known as King Street. On the balcony of this building, which looked down the street, were seated the dignitaries of the State, members of the Assembly, and others. Ranged along King Street were three regiments of soldiers, divided into thirteen sections to represent the thirteen States. A vast concourse of people crowded the street. The sheriff read the document to the assembled multitude. The thirteen military sections each then fired a salute; the church-bells were rung; and the artillery from Fort Hill, Dorchester Heights, the Castle, and Fort Alderton, made the welkin ring with pealing sounds. A grand dinner closed the proceedings.

The signs representing the King's arms, and other titles of royalty,

then quite numerous all over the city, which had been during the day industriously torn down, were in the evening piled up in State Street, and converted into a vast bonfire, around which the people gathered, and gave vent to their joy at the liberty which now, at last, seemed within their grasp.

THE DECLARATION IN NEWTON.

By order of the State authorities of that day, the minister of each church in the colony was required to read the Declaration from the pulpit as soon as he received a copy, and then deliver it to the town clerk to be placed in full upon the town records. There was then but one church in Newton, — the First Church, in the eastern part of the town; and the Declaration was read in that church by Rev. Mr. Merriam, the minister, and then recorded upon the town book by Abraham Fuller, town clerk.

The reading of the Declaration on the 4th inst., by Mr. Cate, was from this original record book, still in a good state of preservation at the City Hall.

The addresses given at the City Hall, July 4, in the "allegorical representations," were written by Miss Mattie C. Howe of Newton, and were in every way apt, inspiring, and able. The address of "Liberty" to King George was delivered by Miss Carrie A. Glover of West Newton, in a manner that fairly thrilled the audience. Miss Glover's clear, strong voice penetrated every part of the hall; and when the words "thus far" were spoken to the British soldiers, as they advanced upon the platform, the effect was wonderful. The whole address was given with ease and steadiness, and showed the results of much careful study.

THE FOURTH AT THE LOWER FALLS. — At the Lower Falls, the house where Gov. Rice was born was beautifully decorated with flags and streamers, with the inscription: "Birthplace of Gov. Rice." At other points there were decorations, with fireworks in the evening.

Rev. S. F. Smith of Newton arrived home from Europe in season to participate in the celebration of the Centennial Fourth. His popular

hymn, "My Country, 'tis of thee," &c., was sung on Sunday, and again on Tuesday, all over the land.

During the performance of the historical scenes at the City Hall, July 4, the audience joined in singing a hymn to the tune of "God save the Queen," with much animation and fervor. Victoria was friendly to this country when friendship was opportune and effectual.

DESCENDANTS OF MEN OF THE REVOLUTION.

The following list is as complete as can be obtained, of the eldest living descendant of each Newton family of the Revolutionary era.

William Adams	West Newton.
Charles D. Bartlett	Newton Centre.
E. J. Collins	Newton Upper Falls.
Amasa Crafts	Newton Highlands.
Henry W. Crafts	West Newton.
George Fuller	" "
Henry Fuller	Newton.
David Hall, jun.	Newton Highlands.
Francis Hall	East Cambridge.
William H. Hyde	Newton Highlands.
James F. C. Hyde	Newton Centre.
H. N. Hyde	Newton.
W. M. Hyde	Boston.
Edward Hyde	Cambridge.
Edward Jackson	St. Louis.
Henry A. Jackson	West Newton.
John A. Kenrick	Newton.
Noah S. King	Oak Hill.
Francis Murdock	"
Edwards A. Park	Andover.
W. H. Park	Newton.
Robert Prentice	Newton Highlands.

Charles F. Rogers	Newton.
Henry Ross	Newtonville.
Eben Stone	Newton Highlands.
Daniel Stone	Chestnut Hill.
David Stone	Newton Highlands.
Thomas Thwing	Boston.
Almarin Trowbridge	"
Asa R. Trowbridge	Newton Centre.
Stephen W. Trowbridge	Boston.
William O. Trowbridge	Newton.
George K. Ward	Newton Centre.
Thomas A. Ward	" "
Joseph White	" "
William Wiswall	West Newton.
William C. Wiswall	Oak Hill.
Ebenezer Woodward	Newton.

OFFICERS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

OFFICERS

OF THE

NEWTON CITY GOVERNMENT.

1876.

MAYOR.

ALDEN SPEARE.

ALDERMEN.

Ward 1. — F. G. Barnes.
" 2. — W. W. Keith.
" 3. — V. E. Carpenter.
" 4. — J. Willard Rice.
Ward 5. — F. A. Collins.
" 6. — J. F. Edmands.
" 7. — G. D. Gilman.

COMMON COUNCIL.

George E. Allen . . . . *President.*

Members of Council.

Ward 1. — George F. Meacham.
J. S. Potter.
" 2. — W. J. Towne.
D. S. Simpson.
" 3. — George E. Allen.
C. D. Elliott.
" 4. — Rufus Moulton.
W. I. Goodrich.
Ward 5. — Eugene Fanning.
Ira A. Bowen.
" 6. — J. M. White.
Dwight Chester.
" 7. — A. S. Weed.
A. A. Pope.

E. J. Collins . . . . . *Treasurer and Collector.*
E. O. Childs . . . . . *City Clerk.*
B. F. Otis . . . . . *City Auditor.*
Hon. Peter Thacher . . . *City Solicitor.*
A. R. Carter . . . . . *Superintendent of Streets.*

ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT.

Assessors.

ISAAC HAGAR, *Chairman* . . Term expires January, 1877.
HOWARD B. COFFIN, *Secretary* . . Term expires January, 1878.
SAMUEL M. JACKSON . . . Term expires January, 1879.

Office, City Hall.

Assistant Assessors. — Elected Annually.

Ward 1. — A. B. COBB.
" 2. — H. F. ALLEN.
" 3. — C. F. EDDY.
" 4. — NATHAN MOSMAN.
Ward 5. — BENJAMIN NEWELL.
" 6. — GEORGE WARREN.
" 7. — JOHN WARNER.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

ALDEN SPEARE . . *Mayor, Chairman ex officio.*
GEORGE E. ALLEN, *President of the Common Council, ex officio.*
BRADFORD K. PIERCE . *Chairman.*
H. M. WILLARD . . *Secretary.*
ISAAC HAGAR . . *Auditor.*

	Elective Members.	*Present Term of Office.*
Ward 1. —	BRADFORD K. PIERCE . . .	Expires January, 1877.
	HENRY C. HARDON . . .	Expires January, 1877.
" 2. —	WINFIELD S. SLOCUM . . .	Expires January, 1877.
	HENRY C. HAYDEN . . .	Expires January, 1877.
" 3. —	JOHN A. GOULD	Expires January, 1878.
	WALTER ALLEN	Expires January, 1878.
" 4. —	JULIUS L. CLARKE	Expires January, 1879.
	J. E. LATIMER	Expires January, 1879.
" 5. —	ELIJAH W. WOOD	Expires January, 1879.
	ISAAC HAGAR	Expires January, 1879.
" 6. —	JAMES S. NEWELL	Expires January, 1878.
	A. E. LAWRENCE	Expires January, 1877.
" 7. —	L. R. STONE	Expires January, 1879.
	G. W. SHINN	Expires January, 1878.

POOR DEPARTMENT.

Board of Overseers. — Elected annually.

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR . . . *Ex-officio Chairman.*

Ward 1. — A. B. COBB.
" 2. — GEORGE E. BRIDGES.
" 3. — O. F. LUCAS.
" 4. — J. WASHBURNE.
Ward 5. — A. L. HALE.
" 6. — W. O. KNAPP.
" 7. — JOHN WARNER.

JOHN J. WARE . . . . *Warden of the Almshouse.*

ANDREW B. COBB . . *Clerk of the Board.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

ORRIN WHIPPLE . . . . *Chief Engineer.*

Assistant Engineers.

Ward 1. — W. H. PARKE, Jun.
" 2. — W.L.FROTHINGHAM.
" 3. — HENRY L. BIXBY.
Ward 4. — ISAAC W. BIRD.
" 5. — R. B. DAILEY.
" 6. — JOS. E. COUSENS.

EDWIN O. CHILDS . . . . *Clerk.*

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

REVILLO L. HINDS . . . . *City Marshal.*

J. D. HENTHORN.
GEORGE W. RIGBY.
C. O. DAVIS.
EDWARD MYRER.
R. H. MOULTON.
CHARLES KENNEDY.
OTIS ATHERTON.
C. P. HUESTIS.
F. E. TUCKER.
G. H. MARSH.
C. H. ROBERTS.
FRANK E. HINDS.

Special Policemen.

E. V. HOWARD.
GEORGE PARKER.
J. M. BRIGGS.
A. H. TOWNE.
SAMUEL STEARNS.
R. TURNER.
JAMES SULLIVAN.
C. W. ROSS.
E. HUSTON.
GEORGE E. F. BAKER.

Constables.

JOHN M. FISK.
CHARLES L. WILSON.
JOSEPH HEUSTIS.
RODNEY M. LUCAS.
GEORGE P. STEVENS.

CITY GOVERNMENT.

Ward Officers.

Ward 1. — *Warden*, A. B. COBB; *Clerk*, J. A. EVANS; *Inspectors*, CHARLES NEWELL, DEXTER WHIPPLE, E. D. DYER.

Ward 2. — *Warden*, JOHN B. TURNER; *Clerk*, W. S. SLOCUM; *Inspectors*, GEORGE EASTMAN, W. L. FROTHINGHAM, A. B. TAINTER.

Ward 3. — *Warden*, D. W. CHILDS; *Clerk*, STEPHEN THACHER; *Inspectors*, GEORGE H. INGRAHAM, E. E. BURDON, N. C. PIKE.

Ward 4. — *Warden*, W. R. Dimond; *Clerk*, H. H. Mather; *Inspectors*, James R. Mann, George W. Blood, B. B. Clark.

Ward 5. — *Warden*, W. S. Cargill; *Clerk*, C. H. Noyes; *Inspectors*, H. W. Moore, J. Brundrett, R. B. Dailey.

Ward 6. — *Warden*, L. E. Coffin; *Clerk*, E. H. Mason; *Inspectors*, B. F. Tyler, E. A. Ellis, Frank Edmands.

Ward 7. — *Warden*, I. N. Peabody; *Clerk*, C. F. Farlow; *Inspectors*, C. L. Bixby, H. C. Grant, Moses Clark, Jun.

CITY MUNICIPAL COURT.

W. W. Carruth . . . . . *Judge.*
Ed. M. Cate . . . . . *Clerk.*

REPRESENTATIVES TO GENERAL COURT.

Isaac T. Burr. Levi C. Wade.

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

From the Board of Aldermen.

William W. Keith, Esq.

From the Common Council.

William I. Goodrich.

At Large.

Hon. J. Wiley Edmands . . . . Term expires 1881.
John S. Farlow, Esq. . . . . Term expires 1880.
Rev. Bradford K. Pierce, D.D. . . Term expires 1879.
Hon. Julius L. Clarke . . . . Term expires 1878.
Hon. James F. C. Hyde . . . . Term expires 1877.

EXTRACTS FROM THE HISTORY

OF THE

EARLY SETTLEMENT OF NEWTON,

PRIOR TO 1800.

EXTRACTS FROM THE HISTORY

OF THE

EARLY SETTLEMENT OF NEWTON,

PRIOR TO 1800,

By FRANCIS JACKSON (a native of Newton).

1854.

The settlement of Newton began in 1631. Its town records were commenced in November, 1632; and the proprietors' record, in 1635.

The origin of the name "Newtown," or, rather, its application to the town, grew out of the facts and circumstances attending its first settlement.

At the erection of the village into an independent town, in 1679, the number of freemen was about sixty-five.

1699, May. — *Voted*, To build a schoolhouse, sixteen feet by fourteen, before the last of November. (See sketch of the old schoolhouse.)

1700, Jan. 1. — The selectmen and inhabitants did hire and agree with John Staples to continue the keeping of the school four days in a week, until March; and he to have two shillings per day. And those that send children to school shall pay threepence per week for those who learn to read, and fourpence for those that learn to write and cipher.

1796. — *Voted*, That five stoves be provided to warm the schoolhouses.

INDIANS.

THE early settlers [of Newton] found Indians dwelling in wigwams on Nonantum, among whom Wabau was their head man.

It was here that Rev. John Eliot made his first attempt to Christianize them. Having previously learned their language, he went on the 28th of October, 1646, with three others, to address them on the subject of Christianity. Wabau, a wise and grave man, met him at a small distance from their settlement, and welcomed him to a large wigwam on the Hill Nonantum. A considerable number of the Indians assembled to hear the new doctrine. Mr. Eliot delivered a sermon which occupied an hour. He repeated and explained the Ten Commandments. He spoke to them of the person of Jesus Christ. He related the creation and fall of man, the joys of heaven, and the punishments of hell, finally persuading to repentance and a good life. In answer to his inquiry, if he had been understood, the unanimous reply was, "We understand all."

After several visits, it was resolved to set up a school among them. To accomplish this, it was necessary to reduce them from a savage life, and to bring them into a state of civil society. This was conformable to the observation of Mr. Eliot, "that the Indians must be civilized, as well as, if not in order to, their being Christianized."

A meeting-house was built (upon the estate now owned by the Kenrick family) twenty-five by fifty feet, in a most substantial manner, equal to the work of good English joiners. They planted trees, built houses, and cultivated fields. Some were taught trades. The women learned to spin.

The first civil laws which were ever established in this country for the regulation of the aboriginals were made for the settlement of Nonantum. They were designed for the promotion of cleanliness, decency, chastity, and industry, and the discouragement of the opposite qualities and vices.

The first entry upon the town records relative to the poor is March 5, 1711: "*Voted*, That, once a year, there shall be a contribution, on Thanks-

giving Day, for the poor, which shall be paid into the town treasury, and given out to the poor by the selectmen as they see need."

1701. — About the time of setting up the first meeting-house (1660), Deacon John Jackson gave one acre of land for the place for the house to stand upon, and for a burying-place; and May 14, 1701, Abraham Jackson (son of Deacon John) gave one acre more for enlarging the burying-place, and the convenience of the training-place.

(The old ground is on Centre Street, opposite the residence of Gardner Colby, Esq.)

According to the records and monuments, Rev. John Eliot, jun., and his first wife, Sarah Willett, daughter of Capt. Thomas Willett of Plymouth Colony, and first mayor of New York, were probably the first persons buried here, — one in June, 1665; the other in October, 1668.

A marble monument has been erected on the spot where the first meeting-house stood in 1660: upon one side the names of the earliest settlers of the town; upon the other, inscriptions to the memory of the first minister, first ruling elder, and the donors of the burying-place.

The first meeting-house in Cambridge Village (Newton) was erected in the old burial-place in 1660. John Eliot, jun., took his degree in 1656, began to preach about 1658, and was ordained pastor of the First Church July 20, 1664; and the same day the church was organized. The male members at the commencement may be estimated at about forty, and the females at about the same number, and the number of families about thirty.

The Rev. Nehemiah Hobart was one of the early pastors, who so succeeded in healing the dissensions, and restoring harmony, that he was called "the repairer of breaches." During his pastorate, it was "*Voted*, That seats for the boys be made from the west door to the south-west corner of the house. *Voted*, That the vacant room on the east and north side of the house, to the pulpit, is granted for the setting-up of pews for women and children; but they shall not be sold to a stranger."

Rev. George Whitefield preached in Newton in November, 1740, to a crowded audience. His religious tenets divided the community: almost every man was an ardent advocate or a decided opponent. Whatever may be thought of his peculiar opinions, certain it is, that his eloquence as a preacher was unrivalled, and his zeal for the cause he taught, of the highest character. The fruits of his ministration were great and striking.

1773. — A committee was chosen to examine the church stocks.[1]

The Common at Newton Centre, an elevated and pleasant spot, contains about three acres of land. Current tradition is, that this Common was given to the town by Jonathan Hyde, sen., and Elder Wiswall, for a training-field. This ground has been used more or less by military companies, and for other purposes. In 1700, the town voted to build a schoolhouse upon it; and, in 1730, the selectmen staked out a lot there, to build a "noon-house" (a small house for the accommodation of these church goers, where, at noon, they ate their bread and cheese, and drank their cider).

Charles River, to which the Indians gave the name of "Quinobequin," encircles a very large part of Newton: the centre of its channel forms the northerly, westerly, and southerly boundary-line of the town, being a continuous curving line of upwards of fifteen miles. The first mill erected upon its banks in Newton was by John Clark, about 1688, at Upper Falls, the spot now occupied by Otis Pettee, Esq.

[1] Some of our readers may mistake the duty of this committee. The church owned no stocks, neither fancy nor foot-ball, such as modern brokers hawk about State Street. Those church stocks did not rise or fall, but were stationary. They rested upon solid earth, about ten rods from the church, and were made of two pieces of white-oak-timber, about eight feet long, clamped together with bar-iron at each end, through which holes were made, of various sizes, to fit human legs, for misbehavior during what was called "divine service." At least, disorderly persons were liable to have their legs made fast between the oak and iron by way of punishment.

We have often eyed that remnant of the Inquisition, when a boy, with a shudder.

These church stocks, like all human contrivances, often needed repairs; and that, no doubt, was the duty of the committee.

For nearly two centuries, Wiswall and Hammond Ponds have been naturally and properly so called, in remembrance of two of the early and prominent settlers of the town. They have become a part and parcel of the historical points of the place, and ought to be forever known by these names.

The first grist-mill was built upon "Smelt Brook," near the territorial centre of the town (near Mill Street), at a very early period of its settlement, by Lieut. John Spring. The brook received its name from the fact, that, before it was obstructed by dams, smelts, and other fish from the ocean, passed up this stream.

NEWTON, LEXINGTON, AND CONCORD.

April 19, 1775. — At this time, there were three companies of infantry in the town, — the west company, Capt. Amariah Fuller, one hundred and five men ; the east company, Capt. Wiswall, seventy-six ; and a company of minute-men, Capt. Phineas Cook, thirty-seven ; two hundred eighteen in all, all of which were in the battles of that day, and marched twenty-eight miles. There were many other Newton men, not attached to either of the companies, who were in the action, including thirty-seven volunteers, called the Alarm-list, men who had passed the age for military duty. Among them were : —

Capt. Joshua Fuller,	age, 72.	Abraham Fuller,	age, 55.
Benjamin Eddy,	68.	Joshua Murdock,	54.
Joseph Adams,	68.	Peter Durel,	56.
Phineas Miller,	62.	Thomas Beal,	58.
Capt. John Woodward,	51.	Henry Segar,	57.
Deacon Joseph Ward,	69.	Capt. Edward Jackson,	46.

In writing of the vote passed June 17, 1776, he continues : —

"That solemn and ever memorable vote was not meant for show : those lives and fortunes went along with it, honestly, earnestly, and triumphantly, from the first hour to the last of that sanguinary struggle for independence.

"Newton men formed a part of every army and expedition, fought in almost every battle and skirmish throughout the contest. Scarce a man in the town, old or young, able or unable, but what volunteered, enlisted, or was drafted, and served in the ranks of the army, from the hardest fought battle down to the more quiet duty of guarding Burgoyne's surrendered army, partly by aged men."

The census of the town, taken in 1765, was thirteen hundred and eight ; that taken in 1790, thirteen hundred and sixty. The loss of life, and all that sustained life, was very great during the war ; and many years of peace and industry would be required to bring the town up to as prosperous a condition as it was at the commencement of the Revolution.

The number of men who served in the Continental army and in the militia, during the war, was about four hundred and fifty.

The records of the town will serve to prove how fully, and at what sacrifice, the pledge of 1776 was redeemed. History, we think, will be searched in vain to find a parallel to the exertion and devotion which the town, in common with others, exhibited.

OFFICERS OF NEWTON WHO SERVED IN THE WAR OF THE REVOLUTION.

Col. Joseph Ward, *Aide-de-Camp and Secretary* of Major-Gen. Ward in 1775, and afterwards Muster-Master-General of the army.

Michael Jackson, *Colonel* of the Eighth Regiment.

Ephraim Jackson, *Lieutenant-Colonel* of the Tenth Regiment.

William Hull, " " " " Eighth "

Nathan Fuller, " " " " Thirteenth "

Amariah Fuller, *Captain.*

Jeremiah Wiswall, "

Joseph Fuller, "

Benjamin Dana, "

Phineas Cook, "

Edward Fuller, "

Simon Jackson, "

John Marean, *Lieutenant.*

Isaac Jackson, "

Joseph Croft, "

Samuel Richardson "

Michael Jackson, Jr., "

Daniel Jackson, "

Aaron Murdock, "

Caleb Kenrick, "

Ebenezer Jackson, "

Amasa Jackson, *Ensign.*

Charles Jackson, "

HECKMAN
BINDERY, INC.
Bound-To-Please®
MAR 00
N. MANCHESTER, INDIANA 46962